



AGAWAM Advertiser News

CAR-RT SORT **** CR11
Agawam Public Library
750 Cooper St
Agawam, MA 01001

55°C

Volume XIX Number 5

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

February 1, 1996

Johnson, Town Officials Gather For Inaugural Night

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

On Friday, January 26th, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson welcomed town officials and civic and business leaders to his fourth inaugural celebration at The Oaks Banquet House.

The evening began with a social hour followed by a mock swearing-in ceremony for Agawam's first and only mayor, as well as the newly-elected Town Council and School Committee. The oaths of office were administered by the Honorable Justice Robert L. Howarth.

Feeding Hills resident Dan Yorke, a popular talk show host from WHYN AM Radio, served as master of ceremonies. Yorke is a member of the Municipal Golf Commission.

Embarking on his fourth two-year term as Agawam's chief executive officer, Johnson thanked his wife, parents, and in-laws for the support they have given him over the years.

"When I started in 1989, I never thought I'd be here today," Johnson said. "The people of this community are tremendous. I care a great deal about the people I work with and for."

State Senator Linda Melconian said townspeople

have made astute decisions in adopting the mayoral form of government and in electing Johnson as their first mayor.

Melconian praised Johnson for his ability to find new solutions to age-old problems, for setting the tone and style of government, and for making difficult choices rather than running away from them.

Melconian urged Johnson to "heed the advice and counsel of your constituents. They are what makes Agawam great."

Most Important Achievement

Highlighting the completion of Phase One of the Rte. 57 expansion as the single most important achievement of his tenure as mayor, Ms. Melconian told Johnson, "You have been an effective and articulate spokesman for Agawam's needs."

Offering his congratulations to the town's newly-elected leadership, State Representative Daniel Keenan facetiously asked when he would no longer be introduced as "Mike Walsh's successor."

SEE INAUGURAL - Page 2...



AHS VARSITY HOCKEY player Amy Mastrolanni

Female Player On AHS Hockey Continues Trend

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There was a time, back in Victorian days, when the most athletic thing a woman did was give birth.

There was a time when the men had their fists clenched firmly around the purse strings of that bag that contained the athletic budgets for elementary, secondary, and higher education.

There was a time when women, in any sport they chose, played to empty gyms and arenas; where their audiences, most of the time, consisted of some parents and a janitor or two. The atmosphere was a mix of cobwebs, bad lighting, and the lonely echoes of their yells and screams as they strove to excel.

In 1972, federal law Title X came along. It was part of the Educational Amendment Act, which is supposed to provide equal opportunity to men, women, boys, and girls in any form of educational endeavor they might choose to pursue.

Title IX is the hardball section of the act. It has to do with athletics and the assurance that women be given the same access to the athletic side of education, at any level, as the men.

Back then, in a financial sense, it was a two-minute warning on athletic equality for the people who controlled the dollars.

That was then. This is now. One can't help contemplating that old cliché - "You've come a long way baby."

Women have come a long way, right up to the point where now, under certain circumstances, in the rules of state athletic associations around the country, men and women are free to compete in the same sport against each other.

SEE SPORTS CHANGING - Sports Section..



IN PHOTO LEFT, MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON (center) is pictured at the Annual Inaugural Celebration with organizer Joann McGeoghan and Master of Ceremonies Dan Yorke of Feeding Hills. Yorke is a popular talk show host for WHYN AM Radio and is a member of the Municipal Golf Commission. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Republican Town Committee Chairman Christian Quatrone and Democratic Town Committee Chairwoman Barbara Barton-Dunn (right) share a moment of unity as Town Council President Nancy Thompson looks on. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

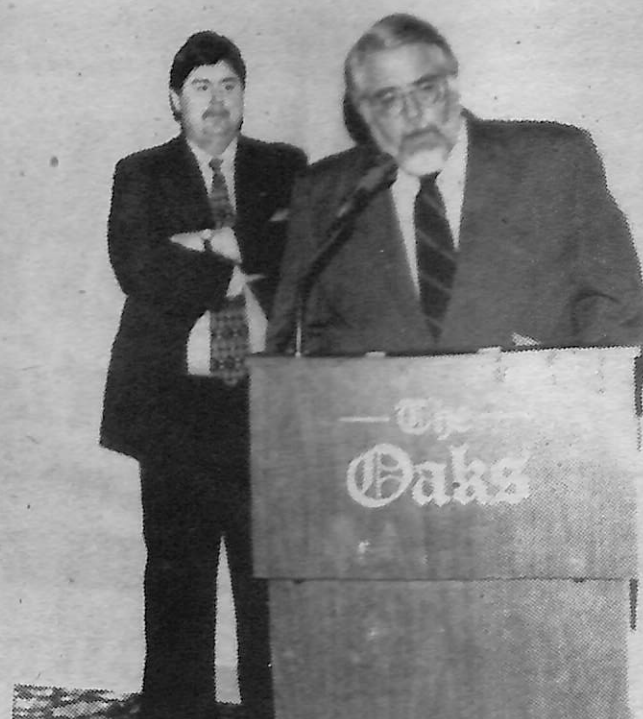
Agawam Little League & Sacred Heart AA Set February Sign-Ups For Spring/Summer

Agawam Little League will hold its Final Sign-Ups for the spring/summer baseball season on Saturday, February 3rd, at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street, Agawam Center, between 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Returnees must re-register. Age divisions include instructional (age 6), Farm (age 7), Minor (ages 8-9), and Major (ages 10-12).

The Sacred Heart Athletic Association will hold

baseball & softball sign-ups for the spring/summer season on Saturday, February 10th and Sunday, February 11th, from noontime to 1:00 p.m., at the Parish Center, for boys and girls ages 6-16.

The SHAA will be featuring a new league in 1996, the "Designated Pitcher League" for boys primarily eight years-old. An informational night will be held on Thursday, February 8th, at 7:00 p.m., in the Parish Center. For more info on this new league, call Brian Rheault at 789-4792.



TOWN EMPLOYEES, DEPARTMENT HEADS, and fellow townspeople gathered at The Oaks last Friday night for the gala Inaugural Celebration. About 175 people attended. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Judge Robert L. Howarth (at the podium) officiated at the swearing-in ceremonies. Behind Judge Howarth is Dan Yorke, who served as master of ceremonies. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

INAUGURAL - from Page 1...

Keenan said, "Government downsizing at the state and federal level puts more pressure on you at the local level. You are the face of government that the people see everyday."

Keenan said public service is a tremendous responsibility for elected officials and a tremendous sacrifice for their families.

Inaugural committee Chairwoman Joann McGeoghan said this year's celebration was the most successful. A crowd of 175 turned out for the gala event that featured a buffet dinner followed by an evening of music and dancing.

New Board Members Now Being Sought For Agawam Council On Aging

The Agawam Council On Aging serves as a town department responsible to the Mayor. Council members serve in an advisory capacity to Richard Mundo, Senior Center director.

The members help to establish policy regarding the use of and programming for the Agawam Senior Center.

The Council meets on the fourth Tuesday of

each month at 4:00 p.m. at the Center. Recently, the Town Council approved a membership of 13 on the COA and new members are being solicited.

If you are interested in serving the senior citizens of Agawam, please express your interest through a letter to Mayor Johnson or a phone call to Richard Mundo at 786-0400, ext. 242.

For the best in local goods and services, be sure to check our classified ads

Century 21

HERITAGE, REALTORS®

EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

(413) 786-3111

**850 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030**

**Call Our Office For Information
About A Career In Real Estate**



Consider

This

Our

Report

Card.

Sold

Century 21
Real Estate
1-800-4-HOUSES

We do. It's why we work so hard to show and sell a house once it's listed with us. We want to make sure we make the grade. Maybe that's one reason why in a nationwide survey of homeowners, the CENTURY 21® system was named "best at helping people sell their homes" more often than any other real estate sales organization. So, if you're thinking of selling, call us. You'll find we're a quick study.

Discover The Power Of Number 1®

Century 21
Heritage

*Source: 1994 Nationwide Survey of Homeowners. Survey included 1,800 telephone interviews with a random sample of homeowners from across the USA, and was conducted January 5-17, 1994 by The Wittich Group. Results of the survey show a 90% confidence interval of ± 3.7%. Homeowners were asked to rank the different real estate sales organizations, which one would you rely on the most at helping people sell their homes? Each office is independently owned and operated.

AGAWAM \$70s
Affordable - very clean home. 5 rooms - 3 bedrooms - updated kitchen and baths - 3 garages.
Century 21 Heritage 786-3111



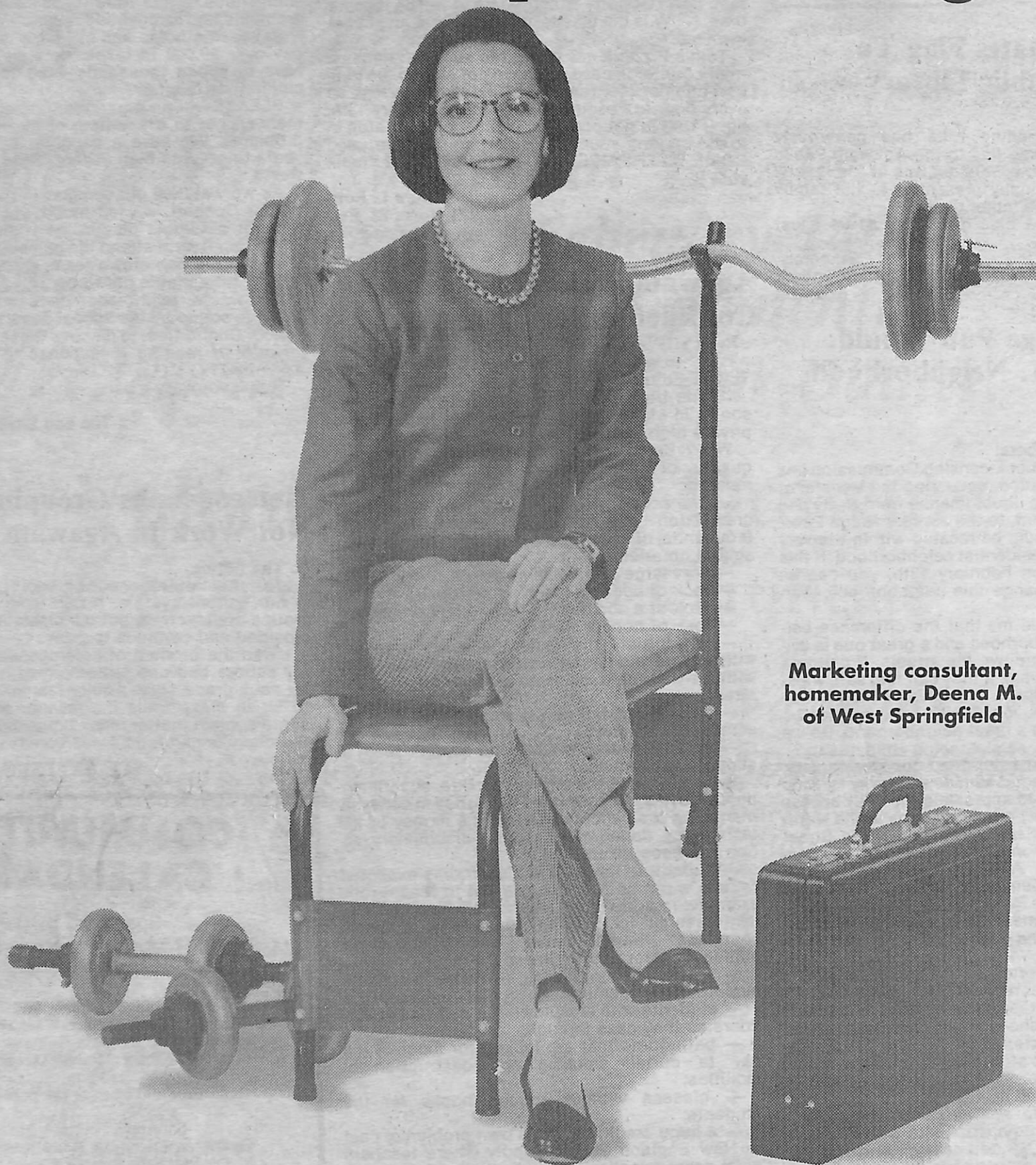
AGAWAM \$150s
7 rooms - 4 bedrooms - 1½ baths. A brick beauty - open floor plan - quiet area.
Century 21 Heritage 786-3111



**Century 21 Pre-license classes:
Call now to reserve your place or
for further information call 786-3111.**

My Passion Is Exercise. My Bank Is Hampden Savings.

PUBLIC LIBRARY
AGAWAM, MASS.



Marketing consultant,
homemaker, Deena M.
of West Springfield

"I got on the health bandwagon fairly early, and I've been working out regularly for almost 20 years. Three times a week, I make exercise fit into my busy life. It's a juggling act, but, I think very well worth it.

My bank, however, fits me like a glove. It's great to walk into Hampden Savings and be greeted by name—you know you're not a number! And my

kids love to flop down on those gigantic pandas in the lobby. It's truly a friendly place.

Do I love my bank the way I do pumping iron? Not really, unless it's the day in November when Hampden sends me my bonus interest check. That extra month's interest is like new-found money, even though they say I deserve it! I think it's just another of the special ways I'm treated here. "

HAMPDEN SAVINGS BANK

Proving What A Mutual Bank Can Do

Main Office: 19 Harrison Avenue, Springfield ❖ Other Offices: Allen Street, Springfield ❖ West Springfield ❖ Longmeadow

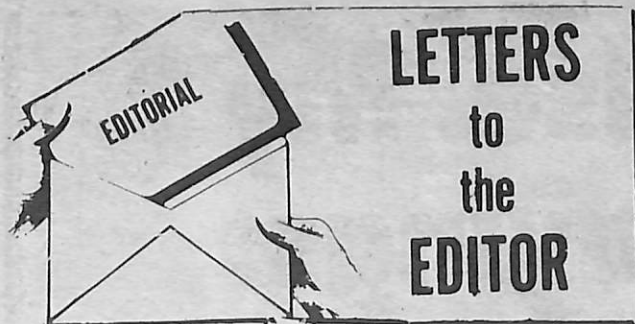


EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

An Equal Opportunity Lender

All Deposits Insured In Full

Member FDIC/DIF



Family Donates Flag To Agawam Public Library

To The Editor:

A family in Feeding Hills has generously donated an American flag to the Agawam Public Library to replace the worn-out one at the library. The flag was originally presented to the family when their husband/father died.

This was such a nice gift to all of us I just wanted to share it.

Sincerely,
Alice Dubour
Agawam

Juniper Ridge Pub Would Change F.H. Neighborhood

To The Editor:

Friends and Neighbors:

The Agawam Liquor Licensing Commission has received an application requesting the transfer of Mr. Ralph Bottaro's liquor license from Betty's in the Patch Restaurant, to the Juniper Ridge Pub.

The new pub would be located within the very heart of our rural, residential neighborhood. If this transfer is made on February 13th, you can be sure that it will change this neighborhood overnight.

Somone once told me that the difference between a good neighborhood and a great one is evident by just driving down the streets. If children play outside in the yard, if they can feel safe walking to the corner stores, if neighbors stop to say "hello" as they walk, jog, or bike past, you can be pretty sure that it is a great neighborhood. Do we want to lose that special Feeding Hills quality?

Keep our children safe. Keep our streets safe. Keep our neighborhood as nice as it now is. Stop and take a moment to appreciate the easy access we have to our family-oriented shops at the North Street, North Westfield Street, and North Street Extension intersection. Our children can take dancing lessons at Annmarie's, spend their allowance on aquarium supplies at Aqua Dreams, have lunch at Tolly's Pizzeria, then pick up a video to enjoy later, at home. We can even do our banking, get a haircut, and go to the doctor. How does a pub fit in?

I encourage Mr. Bottaro to change his mind and withdraw his transfer request for this location. I'd like to recommend the following shops, instead. How about a hobby shop, model airplanes (remote control), a Scout uniform/supply store (Balakier's just closed), a music store where instruments and lessons are available, or a sporting goods store! A great bookstore would be nice, and if it must be a bar, make it a soup and salad bar or an old-fashioned soda fountain, complete with stools!

Our hard-working, dedicated, and caring Agawam Police Department has worked with our children through project D.A.R.E. to discourage drug abuse and alcoholism. Many hours and dollars have been invested in this program. What kind of message will we all give our children if we support this liquor license transfer? Do we need

to place this pub right in their paths each and every day of their lives?

Let's not lose the present store/business tenants at the shops. They have always helped us to support our school sports, clubs, groups, and organizations. Now we need to support them and let them know we appreciate them and their services.

I think that the word is spreading, but we all must become actively involved if we are to prevent the establishment of a pub in our residential neighborhood. Don't wait for "others" to take action. Don't be sorry after-the-fact. It will be too late then. NOW is the time to come together and to get involved.

Tolly's Pizzeria has offered to keep petitions on their counter in case you have not signed the petition against the transfer yet. I'd like to knock on every door in Feeding Hills before February 13th; but if that is not possible, please, at least stop in to document your opposition to the bar, and COME TO THE MEETING FEBRUARY 13th! Thank you.

Laura L. Poth
971 North St. Ext.
Feeding Hills

Agawam Residents Express No Confidence Regarding AHS

To The Editor:

I write this letter with a very heavy heart. Our son is in eighth grade—and we are looking into private high school.

Why? Because we have no confidence in the quality of education at Agawam High. Our reasons:

- the school could possibly face loss of accreditation due to being hundreds (if not thousands) of volumes short of regulation for high school libraries;

- very large classroom sizes;
- lack of updated teaching materials;
- lack of a competitive technology program;
- loss of honors classes;

- a thrust into heterogeneous grouping without the money for necessary materials and without adequate plans to ensure small class sizes;

- a teaching staff who seems at odds with the administrative staff;

- an administrative staff who doesn't seem to support its teachers;

- a business manager/associate superintendent who has not performed his duties in correctly managing the school department's money or the technology department, and no disciplinary action has been taken;

- substitute teachers in classrooms expected to be a warm body to babysit, not to teach—one example: in a freshman science class, no permanent teacher for the first six weeks of class, countless different "subs" having the class outline Chapter one 10 times;

- classes without enough desks to accommodate the students;

- students who are allowed to spit on the corridors as they pass through;

- bathrooms that are locked for most of the day to curtail smoking and destruction of facilities;

- classes without enough books for the students;

- a huge credit, full of its own problems, paid to New England School Supply where teachers must order supplies at substantially higher cost despite requests to purchase the same supplies at much cheaper prices;

- progress report and report card stubs that are not kept track of;

- MEAP scores that show Agawam students at

or near the bottom of the barrel when compared to other comparable communities in Massachusetts in reading, science, and math at the 10th grade level.

We have been so pleased with our son and daughter's education so far. Why has this happened to our high school? Why are so many parents putting their children into private high school, moving, or taking advantage of school choice? Why has our technology department fallen so far behind? Why are teachers so disgruntled, yet so fearful of coming forward? Why don't you ask for anonymous letters from teachers discussing the problems and suggesting solutions?

Between a home and business in Agawam, we pay over \$9,000 in taxes. Now we are going to have to spend thousands more to educate our children. Is this fair?

PLEASE—in an organized, fair, and productive manner, get to the bottom of the High School's problems. We have a daughter with four more years to go until high school. What will it be like then?

As we watched our son play in the Junior High Winter Concert, we felt proud, yet sad. We had thought he would play in the High School marching band, we'd attend the games as a family, to cheer on our hometown team, enjoying the comradery. Now that is not to be.

We would really appreciate a meeting for parents, set up by the school department and the School Committee, to discuss these issues. I look forward to reading a response in *The Agawam Advertiser*.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Tim and Eileen Ratkiewicz
Agawam

Heterogenous Grouping Will Not Work In Agawam Schools

To The Editor:

I feel that heterogeneous grouping will not work in our school system. It can work where small groups are involved, but our classrooms are overcrowded and continue to grow.

I was the product of heterogeneous grouping. My school had one classroom with one teacher for each grade. I was a quick learner. I would have to sit in class while the teacher went over the same subject matter many times until the rest of the class understood. I was bored!

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sponsored By
COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

Friday, February 2nd
Concert by Ambiance Wind Quintet
(sponsored by Agawam Cultural Council)
At Agawam Public Library
7:30 p.m.
Free and open to the public

Saturday, February 3rd
Operation Friendship Roast Beef Dinner
At Feeding Hills Congregational Church,
21 North Westfield Street, F. Hills
5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Call 786-0195 or 789-3128 for tickets

Wednesday, February 7th
Agawam Community Artists meeting
At Captain Charles Leonard House,
Main Street, Agawam

Thursday, February 8th
Informational meeting regarding Sacred
Heart Athletic Association's plans for the
formation of "Designated Pitcher League"
At Sacred Heart Church Parish Center
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 8th
Meeting of Agawam/West
Springfield Toastmasters
At Country Estates Nursing
Home, Route 75, Agawam
7:00 p.m.
Call 786-6920 or 789-1366 for more info



COLONIAL
Funeral Home

A Branch of Forastiere Family Funeral Homes

985 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001
786-2600



The Agawam Advertiser•News

786-7747

Production Staff

786-8137

Richard Sardella Publisher & Owner
Ellen Lightcap Production Manager/Graphic Artist
Teri Machia Assistant Production Manager
Phil Benoit Typesetter/Layout Assistant
Jack Devine Photographer
Kathy Cassanelli News Editor
Dave Rollins Sports Editor
Peggy Shoemaker Feature Writer

THE AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS (U.S.P.S. 001-170) is published weekly for \$20.50 per year by PAG Publications, Inc., 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0263. Second class postage is paid at F.H., MA 01030 & at associated offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Agawam Advertiser News, P.O. Box 263, F.H., MA 01030-0263.

Alexander's

60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills
786-1127

Bring Your Sweetheart To Alexander's
Wednesday, February 14th



And Enjoy A Complimentary
Glass of Wine With Your Dinner.

Valentine's Day Drawing

♡ **Free \$25.00 Gift Certificate** ♡

Sweetheart Dinner For 2

Includes Complimentary Wine

Appetizer:

Stuffed Mushrooms
Or Fried Mozzarella

Soup: Soup Du Jour

Salad: Tossed Salad

Dinners:

Prime Rib

Veal Francese

Baked Stuffed Shrimp

Dessert: Cheesecake or carrot cake

Coffee or Tea

\$32.00

Per Couple
Plus Tax

*Now Taking
Reservations*

**Dinner Served
From 4:00-10:00**

Valentine's Day Special Features

Baked Seafood Feast

Prime Rib

Zuppa De Pesce

Chicken Amaretto

Veal Francese

Prime Rib And Baked Shrimp

Beef Tenderloin Marsala



*Banquet Facilities Available
For Up To 200 People*

**Business Hours: Dinner, Monday Thru Thursday, 4:00-9:00;
Friday And Saturday, 4:00-10:00**

LETTERS - from Page 4...

I feel sorry for the children in our school system that will fail because of this heterogeneous experiment. In four years, when the school officials that make the decisions realize that heterogeneous grouping does not work, they will reinstate the old system.

But, what happens to the students that were not challenged academically by being offered high ability classes? They will not be prepared to take AP classes in their junior and senior years and their test scores will decline further.

I moved to Agawam so that my children would have an opportunity to receive a good education. My youngest child will be graduating from high school in June. Heterogeneous grouping will not affect me directly, but it will affect us all, because our children are our future!

Denise Carmody
Agawam

We All Must Work Together To Address School Problems

To The Editor:

I have been approached by many citizens from the community of Agawam who have asked why I did not run for a position on the School Committee in the last election. While many factors enter into making such an important decision, the major deciding factor for me was a matter of trust, or more accurately, the lack of it.

As a member of the School Committee, I would be required to rely on information provided by the Business Office of our School Department to make well-informed, intelligent decisions that would affect the educational future of the children of our community.

We have all witnessed past School Committee members expend much time, energy, and effort as they struggled to determine if our own School Department officials had actually provided them with factual, accurate, and complete information in a timely manner.

If we can not rely on the very individuals we have employed with the specific job responsibilities to carry out directives issued by this governing body, how could we ever expect to remain credible, much less move forward on pressing issues?

The recent independent audit conducted by KPMG Peat Marwick LLP that reviewed the School Department's budget and spending policies indicated that "it appears that policies and procedures are in place to control expenditures and identify budget problems. However, these policies and procedures are not consistently followed."

The report also clearly states that state law mandates that the School Committee has sole authority to make line item transfers. Then why is it that many times the School Committee has had its hands tied by the Business Office and has been forced to approve expenditures that actually occurred before authorization had been obtained?

I also believe that the School Committee and the Town Council were deceived by the School Department through a memo dated July 24, 1995. This official document details the "final accounting" of a \$200,000.00 transfer of funds from the Town of Agawam to the School Budget to offset a projected deficit of approximately \$160,000.00, with the remaining \$40,000.00 to purchase much needed supplies for our schools.

This "final accounting" provides an itemization of supplies that would lead one to believe that these items were actually purchased in fiscal 1995, when in fact, a substantial number of these supplies were not ordered until the next fiscal year, and well after this official document had been prepared.

The bottom line is ... you can establish all the policies and procedures in the world, but they are meaningless if our School Department officials continue to defy the authority of the School Committee, disregard the support and good intentions of the Town Council, and fail to comply with Massachusetts State Law.

We try to instill in our children that they alone must be responsible for their actions and accept the consequences of their decisions. Why is it that we accept and have come to expect much less from our own School Department officials?

Mayor Johnson, I would agree with the statement made during your State of the City Address last week that, "Education has come under attack in recent months by people who are dissatisfied with our schools." I would, however, disagree with the statement, "They have tried to assess the success or failure of our system and assign blame."

I believe I have the right, along with every other parent, grandparent, business owner, and taxpayer in Agawam, to expect those individuals to accept their responsibilities for the job we hired them to do. I would also hope that the School Committee would have the strength, intelligence, and integrity to demand accountability.

The School Committee must take swift and firm disciplinary action to ensure that a clear message is sent that a lack of professionalism, questionable ethical practices, and substandard job performance will not be accepted or tolerated.

Our children only have one shot at their education. The children currently attending our schools and those who will soon be entering do not have time for you to eventually get it right. It is their right and our responsibility to ensure that the best educational opportunities are available for them right now!

While I agree, Mayor Johnson, that we must raise the expectations for our children and challenge them to set high goals for their future, I feel we had better take a good hard look at the expectations and goals of our school system.

Isn't it about time we began to expect individuals in our employ to actually adhere to the requirements of the job responsibilities that have been established, rather than allow individuals to pick and choose which portions of their job description they might wish to perform? In the real world of business, this would be grounds for immediate termination; why should it be any different in our school system?

Unfortunately, the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and the MEAP (Massachusetts Education Assessment Program) test results paint a grim picture of the education our children are currently receiving in Agawam. When compared with 34 communities that are considered to have similar socio-economic makeup to that of Agawam, our 10th grade students ranked 34th (DEAD LAST!) in Math, 25th in Science, and in Reading, they tied for 31st place.

Eighth grade MEAP results reflect that in the area of Writing, ONLY six percent of Agawam students are performing at grade level. What happened to the other 94 percent? Agawam SAT results indicate that in the areas of Verbal and Math, our students scored below the state average. THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!

How many times have we heard someone spout, "I am a product of the Agawam School System, and what was good enough for me is good enough for my children and grandchildren," as if this was a reasonable, logical explanation that there could not possibly be anything wrong with our schools now.

Times have changed. If you don't believe this is true, ask a high school student, or a parent or teacher. Just don't count on others to change things for your child's future; it is all that they can do to struggle through one day at a time, as it is. Parents, ask for a tour of the high school. Eventually, most of our children will end up there. Do you know what to expect?

Each day, the number of informed parents and grandparents expressing their concern over the education their children or grandchildren are receiving in Agawam is growing. Parents feel forced to look into alternative methods of educating their children; private/parochial school, school choice, or home schooling.

Many feel the only answer is to put a "For Sale" sign in the front yard and search for a community that embraces education. Others are left with few options due to financial constraints, family obligations, or employment opportunities and responsibilities. Many families feel powerless to do anything more than accept what is available and hope and pray it will be enough.

Listed below are a few examples of issues that

must be addressed:

* Agawam High School will soon undergo an evaluation process for reaccreditation. Is it solely the responsibility of the Acting High School Principal and his staff to address areas of known non-compliance? What kind of support system or plan is in place to assist in this process? How can the community be expected to show concern or interest or play an active role in our schools when our School Department officials refuse to admit problems even exist?

* We have a known drug and violence problem, particularly at the High School. Should additional security and safety precautions be implemented to ensure students' safety and well-being? Why must we wait for an incident to occur before we take action?

* Support services (i.e., full-time support service personnel, internal suspension programs at the Junior High and Middle School, late busses for after-school help) that were in place for students have been dismantled. A study of these services is being conducted. However, it would appear that students may be at risk of falling through the cracks if these issues are not addressed promptly.

* Administrators do not acknowledge that some programs appear to be in noncompliance (i.e., "ESL," English as a Second Language, currently two teachers must cover seven schools to service a growing student population with a total budget of \$1,000.00 for an entire year). Do we receive financial assistance for this program? If not, why not? If so, how is it spent? Is our ESL program recognized by the Department of Education? Where are program and job descriptions documented?

* Heterogeneous grouping was implemented without addressing class size. It was stated that we were required to implement this controversial program because it was mandated by Education Reform and that future funding depended on it.

Much of the documentation outlining this type of program indicates that the advantage of implementing heterogeneous grouping is to recognize the disadvantaged, minority, inner city youth population. Does this sound like Agawam? Provide the written documentation that supports the notion that funding is available through the state that is specifically intended for school systems that have implemented this practice.

* If the School Department would post the position and hire the grant writer that the School Committee approved and funded several months ago, perhaps funding sources could be researched and funds would be available for a variety of programs.

* We can not expect teachers to use the latest techniques available if professional development is not supported. To suggest that educators attend classes on their own time is a fine idea. However, the majority of training is only available during the school day.

* Why aren't we investigating school systems, curriculum, and programs from across the country that have been recognized as model programs? Shouldn't we utilize what has been proven

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR AUTO INSURANCE...



10% Discount & No-interest Billing

Auto club members get a 10% discount on Massachusetts personal auto insurance policies written through The Commerce Insurance Company. So if your car insurance premium is \$1,000, you'll save \$100.

Then you'll save even more, because you'll pay **NO finance or interest charges** on Commerce policies effective January 1, 1996 and later. That's an average annual savings of \$48 on a typical policy.

To get these BIG savings, call your local participating Commerce agent today!

One place to call.

CANARY • BLOMSTROM

INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
868 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
789-3995



The Commerce Insurance Company
The company that cares enough to save you money

LETTERS - from Page 6...

to work? Establish a subcommittee made up of School Committee, School Council, community members, and parents. Why reinvent the wheel?

* How long does it take to implement a new computer system in our School Department? Why would it appear that a back-up system was not in place to safeguard against this problem? How can our school system function without up-to-date financial information? Why must School Department employees have to travel to Town Hall to run computer programs, leaving a shortage of staff to handle other Business Office duties?

* When are we going to establish a PreK-Grade 12 after-school and vacation remedial and enrichment program to ensure that our children have educational opportunities year-round? (Use Longmeadow Summer Program as a model.)

* School officials claim that many parents do not want to get involved when, in fact, people are tired of hearing half-hearted sentiments about parents and members of the community being welcomed and encouraged to play an active role in our schools; the reality is that there is a lack of communication, coordination, and continuity from the top on down, and eventually even the hardest optimist struggles to stay informed and active. Search for a way to really open the doors of our schools.

A workshop to review the results of the audit has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 6th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Superintendents' Conference Room at the Agawam Junior High. This meeting should be conducted at the Middle School and televised on public access Channel 5. I strongly encourage all Agawam residents, especially parents, to become more informed by attending or viewing School Committee meetings.

A public hearing should be held to address important educational issues and provide the opportunity to work together, and move forward, for the sake of our children and the educational future of Agawam.

School administrators, School Committee, and Town Council members, take note: If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem. We will be watching very closely to see where you stand.

Submitted by
Susan M. Dempsey
Agawam

Resident Challenges Info In
"State Of City Address"

To The Editor:

While it does please me to see Mr. Kenneth Forni from the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam take issue with Mayor Johnson's mischaracterization of the many power plant opponents who defend our zoning laws, it is my belief that Mr. Forni could have done more to point out the Mayor's erroneous information in his facetious state of the city speech.

Johnson made several allegations regarding power plant opponents beyond the question of character which Mr. Forni did address. Such a disinformation campaign absolutely needs to be contested, in no uncertain terms.

Firstly, to suggest that our city could both secure positive bond ratings, AND frighten away business simply makes precious little sense. I'm fairly certain our bond ratings would have suffered if the city's expansion in revenue base had even the perception of slowing, and I believe our bond ratings reflect the continuing growth of business ventures and opportunities.

Second, I fail to see how treatment afforded a single industry which seeks to not only subvert, but actually contest and defy, the city's zoning laws could ever discourage industry respectful of the will of the Town of Agawam in the construction of its zoning laws.

I have never heard of any single other prospective industry seeking, in essence, to have our zoning laws overturned—and would hardly miss those who do.

Mr. Forni duly noted how the CCBA supports industrial development while defending our zoning laws. However, growing citizen involvement in Vivian Dziardziel's Concerned Agawam Taxpayers seems indicative of the CCBA's failure to counter prevalent misconceptions about the opposition's alleged negative influence on industry growth.

The defensiveness of the CCBA does not in any way, shape, or form at all substitute for solid facts and figures contesting the Mayor's message. The Mayor seems to be suggesting that our zoning laws' integrity discourages industrial development when, in fact, it has been a key to such development.

Third, I question if the school system has in-

deed improved under Mr. Bernard Ryder's stewardship and am quite sure minute improvements have been made in spite of his stewardship. I give far more credit to creative principals, resourceful instructors, and the several activist parental committees than I do to top level management that can't even communicate with the School Committee.

The parents previously derided by some as "special interests" have done far more for the schools in this city than anyone.

I'm tired of reading apologies by the High School Guidance Department; I'm tired of caustic comments by the most anti-union School Committee representatives; and I'm tired of Johnson's efforts to whitewash such poor performance and mismanagement.

I salute Mr. Frank Lawlor for his views as expressed in his letter, but regret that even he has failed to note how pending lawsuits and character questions surrounding some High School instructors illuminate a very severe problem in our schools bigger than even he might imagine. We cannot even begin improving our schools if we do not address the politics within our schools.

I will agree with Johnson on at least this one point, which we cannot emphasize enough:

"We cannot afford to have the good people sitting at home saying, 'I would never consider becoming involved.'"

Sincerely,
Owen A. Broadhurst
Agawam

Parents Need To Be Aware Of
Problems With Our Schools

To The Editor:

This letter is written in response to a statement presented by Mrs. S. Dempsey, at the School Committee meeting, January 23, 1996, during citizen speak time.

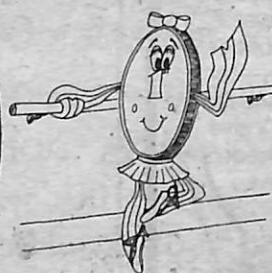
I would like to applaud this person for sparking something in me that hit home and made me start thinking about the education available to our children in the Agawam school system. As a taxpayer, I guess I took for granted my children would be receiving a Grade A education.

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

Catch Red Hot Olympic Fever At

Tim Daggett's Gold Medal Gymnastics, Dance, And Self-Defense

Self-Defense
Men's And Women's Gymnastics
Cheerleading
Dance
Kids' Gymnastics
Huge Selection Of Classes!



Casual Dance

25% Off

1st Month's Fee
All Programs

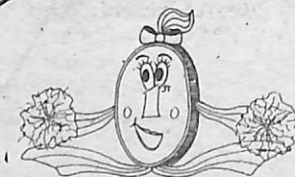
Expires 2-28-96

New Registrants Only. Cannot Be
Combined With Any Other Offer.

Ask About Our
Birthday Parties
786-4686

Look For Our Community Prospects

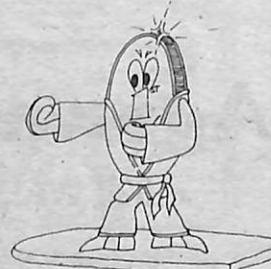
- Babysitting Certification - 3/16/96
- CPR Certification - 3/8/96
- First Aid Certification - 3/9/96



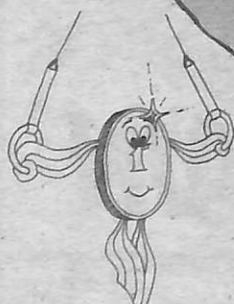
Cheerleading

103 Gold Street — Agawam
(Off Suffield Street, Route 75 - Next To The Oaks)
Visit Our Facility Anytime

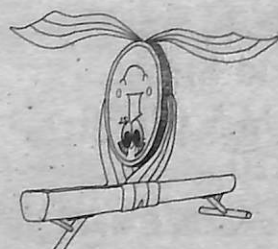
Our Strength Is How We Prepare Our Youth ...
From Tots To Top USA Competitors.
Our Staff Is Certified In Safety, First Aid, And CPR.



Gold Medal Self-Defense



Men's Gymnastics



Women's Gymnastics

LETTERS - from Page 7...

I would like to hope my hard work to raise a family in today's society would be respected and carried through by both elected and appointed officials. A community trusts that those in power will make sound decisions in regards to the children that are intrusted to them in that town's school system.

I can only speak from a parent's point of view. I want the best for my children in their education. All parents do. I simply ask to have an educational system in the town or city in which we live, that we can all proudly send our children to, which can stand up against both state and national averages.

My hope is that other parents in Agawam, with children in the school system, become aware of the issues currently being raised and please have action taken by the present School Committee to get the school system back on track. Overcrowded classes and limited supplies due to decreased funding must truly make teaching today a creative art.

Linda M. Gloster
Agawam

New Citizens Group Wants To Help Economic Growth Here

To The Editor:

The Concerned Agawam Taxpayers (CAT) group has formed to vocalize our support for responsible economic growth in our town.

Over the last few months, a small group of people have become vocal in their opposition of quality development in the Agawam industrial park. As a result, Agawam has earned the reputation of a community hostile to future industrial growth. This negative reputation and image jeopardizes the future development of the industrial park.

As taxpayers in Agawam, we are concerned with the quality of our schools and town services. We are also concerned that residential taxpayers will be forced to pay increasingly more for these services if new businesses are not encouraged to become a part of Agawam.

If Agawam is to grow and prosper, it must attract new industry and expand its tax base. CAT will work to support quality economic and industrial development in an effort to secure a viable economic future for our children. We must also work vigorously to reverse the negative im-

age that Agawam has gained over the last year. It is time that the majority of residents in Agawam who support quality businesses, such as Berkshire Power *unify* and *speak out* to welcome these businesses to Agawam!

Our meetings will be posted on the **Community Bulletin Board (Channel 5 on Continental Cable)**. We encourage all Agawam residents and businesses that care about creating a **POSITIVE** image and encouraging responsible economic development in Agawam to attend.

Sincerely,
Vivian M. Dziardziel, Spokesperson
Concerned Agawam Taxpayers

Visions On School System Can Become Reality

To The Editor:

Like many others in this town, I too watched the Mayor's Address. Now, I'll be the first to admit my normal lack of support for Mr. Johnson, but I feel compelled to acknowledge his coming out of the closet, if you will, with respect to the Agawam school system.

I commend your insight, Mayor, and I agree on the issues you brought to light. You've been in the dark so long. I also concur that we all have the right to agree to disagree and be grown up about it. My one regret is that it took you forever to realize what so many parents already know, and what we tried so hard to get you to understand!

Here's something you probably already knew as well. **BLAME**, as defined in the dictionary, is **RESPONSIBILITY FOR A FAULT OR A WRONG**. Someone has been responsible for the purse strings for a very long time, and someone has no one else to blame but **HIMSELF**.

Now is the time to stop blaming Ed. Reform and SPED for all of the existing problems in our schools. Things which surfaced in 1995 and the year before that and the many years before that didn't happen overnight.

They have **always** been on the **SLOW BURNER** and just recently hit their **BOILING POINT!** I hope we all have learned a lesson and strive to correct these injustices. Let's move forward, marching to the same drummer, to the beat of academic excellence.

My next target is the parents of all Agawam school-aged children. So many of you approach me and voice your concerns, but I cannot speak

for all of you. I sometimes feel as if my words are being heard by deaf ears. I know a lot of you don't want to speak up at the School Committee meetings due to camera and audience fright, so I'm going to ask a favor of you.

PUT YOUR CONCERNS IN WRITING and send them along to *The Agawam Advertiser*, the School Committee, and Town Council members!!! Phone calls are acceptable, too. These people need to hear from others besides Mrs. Dempsey and myself. Though credible as we are, I think we're beginning to sound like broken records. Help us to help you and your children.

Lastly, to the School Committee members, good luck and best wishes on all of the goals you have set. Your visions can become realities if you "Ryde" them all the way to the end.

Respectfully,
Debra Curtis
Agawam

Power Plant Issue Cannot Be Decided On The Local Level

To The Editor:

Over the last year, much has been written about the proposed power plant in Agawam—some pro, some con.

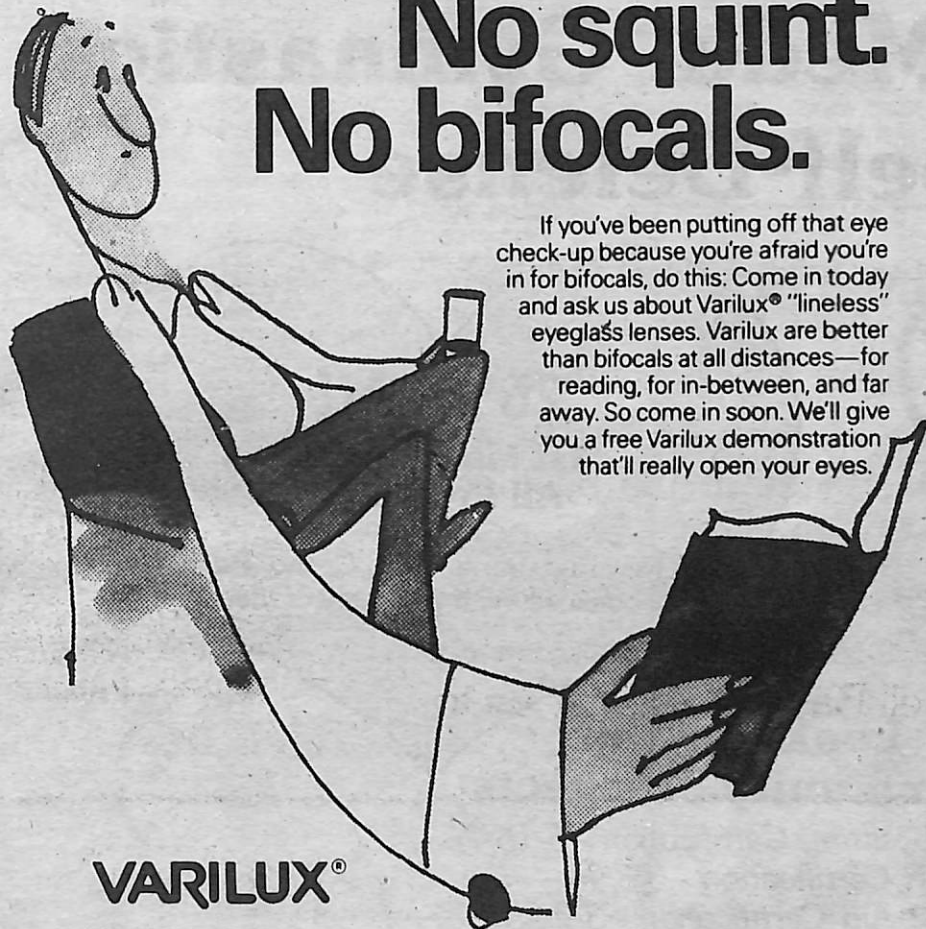
I view the proposal as a very sensitive issue which cannot be decided on the local level. It will take the investigation of scientists, engineers, and various regulatory agencies to decide whether or not the plant will be a safe addition to our industrial base.

If we don't allow the proper authorities to do their work on the issue, we risk sending a message to other interested industries that our industrial park is not available to them. We need to safely increase our industrial base if we wish to continue improving our schools with up-to-date textbooks and computers. Additional revenue is needed to maintain and even advance our level of municipal services. The alternative would be either hefty increases in property taxes or a decline in property values due to subpar schools and services.

I firmly believe that Berkshire Power will be a good neighbor and will do everything in its power to build a safe, non-polluting plant according to the latest safety and anti-pollution standards.

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...

**No stretch.
No squint.
No bifocals.**



If you've been putting off that eye check-up because you're afraid you're in for bifocals, do this: Come in today and ask us about Varilux® "lineless" eyeglass lenses. Varilux are better than bifocals at all distances—for reading, for in-between, and far away. So come in soon. We'll give you a free Varilux demonstration that'll really open your eyes.

VARILUX®

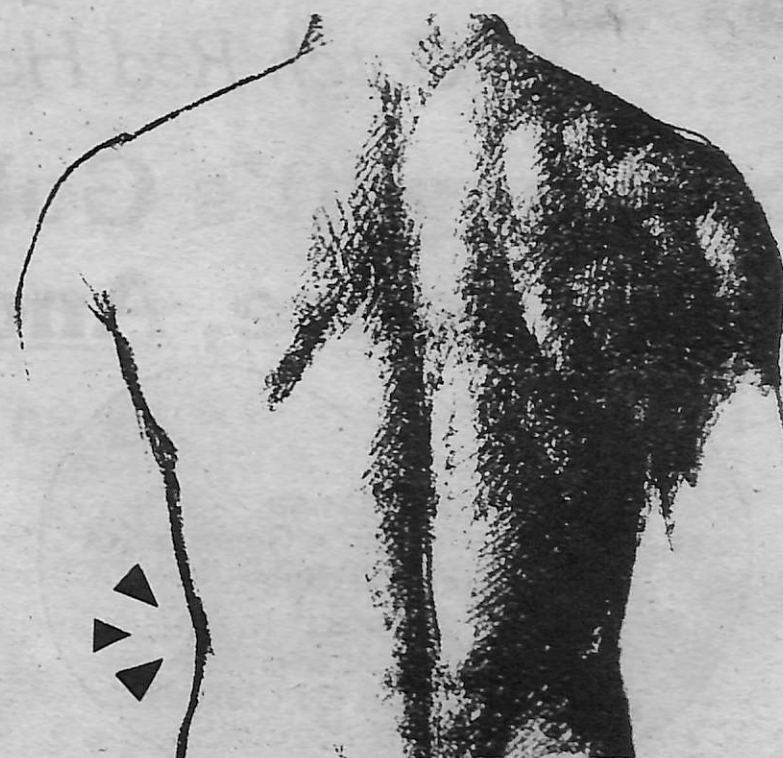
VISION BEYOND BIFOCALS

Agawam Opticians

338 WALNUT STREET EXT.
AGAWAM

786-0719

Since 1972



LOW BACK PAIN

○Get treatment now
○With **CHIROPRACTIC**

Tami Nelson, D.C.
Hampden County Chiropractic
850 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-4820



For information on headaches, neck pain,
back or leg pain, call our automated,
24-hour Information Healthline at
786-5534

**FOR
RELOCATING
FROM
COAST TO
COAST,
OR
ANYWHERE
IN
BETWEEN,
HERE'S
WHY
SO MANY
PEOPLE PICK US.**



BARRY BOCCASILE



PAT DORAN



KATHY BOCCASILE



KATHY ROSE



JOAN LUCHINI



DAVE MODZELESKI



DIANE CLEARWATER



GEORGE DAWSON

Our relocation network is unmatched. It's as simple as that. So if you're moving anywhere in the U.S., Canada, or Puerto Rico, you can count on our over 2,400 offices and more than 57,000 sales associates and employees to help you sell your house here and help you find a new one in your new location. And we make it so easy with some of the most innovative services in the business. Like our Best Seller™ Marketing Services Guarantee that puts into writing the many steps we guarantee to take to help you sell. So if you're planning on relocating, do what so many do. Pick Coldwell Banker, and call us today.



**SUPPORT
YOU CAN COUNT ON™**

**KEENAN & MOLTA
ASSOCIATES**

AGAWAM
789-9890

LONGMEADOW
567-8931

SOUTHWICK
569-0137

SPRINGFIELD
733-2277

WESTFIELD
562-7311



Expect the best.®

An Independently Owned and Operated Member of Coldwell Banker Residential Affiliate

If your property is currently listed with a real estate broker, please disregard. It is not our intention to solicit the offerings of other real estate brokers. We are happy to work with them and cooperate fully. ©1994 Coldwell Banker Corporation. An Equal Opportunity Company. Equal Housing Opportunity. Some Offices Independently Owned and Operated. In Canada, Each Office is an Independently Owned and Operated Member Broker of Coldwell Banker Affiliates of Canada.

Council To Consider Ordinance To Ban Those Trashy Tree Belts Around Town

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At its Monday, February 5th meeting, the Town Council will consider tightening up the zoning code to prohibit overgrown, trash-strewn tree belts along town streets.

Earlier this week, the council's Ordinance Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of an ordinance sponsored by Councilor George Bitzas and the Beautification Committee.

The committee is chaired by Councilor Christian Quatrone. The members are Bitzas and Council Vice-President Jill Simpson.

Bitzas said the proposed ordinance grew out of complaints concerning properties where the overgrown grass has grown to be four to five feet tall. This caused a hazard to motorists and bicyclists, as well as becoming an invitation for the dumping of trash and debris, according to Bitzas.

For the most part, the trouble spots occur on vacant property or rental properties where both tenants and landlords say they are not responsible for maintaining the tree belt.

Bitzas said there are few problems with homeowners and businesses because most people naturally maintain the tree belts as extensions of their own properties.

The ordinance defines tree belts as the area

between the road and the sidewalk or, in the absence of a sidewalk, the area located between the road and the property line.

Bitzas is proposing to add the following paragraph to the zoning ordinance prohibiting damage to sidewalks:

"The tenant or occupant of any real estate in the town which abuts on any public or private way in the town and, in case there is no tenant or occupant, the owner of such real estate shall keep that portion of the public or private way commonly known as the sidewalk and the tree belt, mowed and free and clear of all litter, debris, noxious weeds, brush, any other kind of rubbish and automobiles and shall maintain the same in a clean and sanitary manner."

Enforcement of the ordinance will be under the jurisdiction of the building inspector, and violations will be punished by a fine of not more than \$100 and not less than \$20.

Bitzas said common sense would prevail in the enforcement of the ordinance. He said it wouldn't be necessary to add language that would exclude the occasional trash that might blow onto someone's property or the trash that might occasionally be spilled when trash cans are set out for

collection.

When the ordinance first appeared on the council agenda in December, some councilors feared the new rules would cause problems for elderly residents, but Bitzas said that was not the intent of his proposal.

"This will be no burden at all for elderly people," Bitzas said. "Elderly people have pride in how their property looks, and they keep their yards cleaner than many younger people. We have had no complaints about elderly people (not maintaining their tree belts)."

The Beautification Committee sent a letter to the Ordinance Committee stating that the proposed ordinance is modeled on those found successful in surrounding communities and is not intended to infringe on the good practices of the majority of Agawam's citizens.

Rather, Beautification Committee members say, the ordinance is intended to protect neighbors by not having the appearance and value of their properties degraded. The letter says the town's tree belts are one of its rural assets.

The letter is signed by Beautification Committee Chairwoman Zoafia Demko and members Bitzas, John Zebryk, Helen Lawrenchuk, Alberta Abbey, Caroline Carrier, and Deborah Dachos, director of Planning and Community Development.

Council Votes 6-3 In Favor Of Retaining Independent Attorney On Power Plant

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At a special meeting held on Wednesday, January 24th, Town Council voted 6-3 to ask Mayor Christopher C. Johnson for an independent attorney to defend the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) decision that denied a special permit for the Berkshire Power project.

A week later at presstime, Town Councilor Gary Suffriti said he has received no response to the council's request.

Johnson was not available for comment at presstime.

Berkshire Power's request for a special permit to build a 250 megawatt power plant was denied when the ZBA reached a split decision by voting 2-1 in favor of the plant.

Several town councilors, along with power plant opponents, have criticized Johnson's decision to appoint the town's attorneys to represent both the majority and minority opinions of the ZBA.

Town Solicitor Thomas S. Locke has been appointed to defend the majority opinion; Assistant Town Solicitor Charles Sciafini has been appointed to defend the minority opinion (which is

being challenged in court by Berkshire Power).

Citing ethical questions, the appearance of impropriety and conflict of interest, critics charge that the town's attorneys may not be effective in defending the ZBA's denial of a special permit for a project openly supported by both the Mayor and Locke.

Voting in favor of asking for an independent attorney were Councilors Thomas Ennis, Joseph Langone, Dennis Perry, Kent Servis, David Skolnick, and Suffriti. Council President Nancy Thompson, along with Councilors George Bitzas and Christian Quatrone, voted no. Councilor Jill Simpson abstained from voting, and Councilor Edward Caba was absent.

Will Seek Opinion From State Ethics Commission

Mrs. Simpson said she intends to seek an opinion from the State Ethics Commission on whether or not a conflict of interest exists.

"If there is no conflict, we need to rehash this again. How can you vote if you don't have all the information," Mrs. Simpson said.

Suffriti said the issue was splitting the town. "There's a bad feeling in town and it's getting

worse. I don't know why the Mayor is so adamant in not hiring independent counsel," Suffriti said.

Quatrone said, "We should put our faith in the town attorneys. This all comes down to do you trust our town attorneys, and they've given us no reason not to."

Ennis said it was in the town's best interest to hire independent counsel so that "down the road no one would be able to say the fix was in."

Servis suggested that the council ask Johnson to allow ZBA member Raymond Gendron to choose his own attorney, but later withdrew his amendment.

Servis said, "There is an undercurrent of suspicion in the town. I think it's unfounded, but we have to avoid at all costs the appearance of impropriety."

Bitzas said the council should respect the ZBA's statement that they are confident with the attorneys appointed for them.

"We should keep our hands off the ZBA," Bitzas said. "We should let them do their work and we'll do our work."

LETTERS - from Page 8...

They have already shown their willingness to conform their plans to our concerns, and I see no reason to believe that they won't continue to do so.

However, if their final plans do not meet state safety and anti-pollution standards, they will not get their certificate to build. We need the influx of "in lieu of tax dollars" and the jobs that Berkshire Power will provide. If we are to lose this "new revenue," let's make sure that the plant was "proven" to be wrong for this town by the full scientific and regulatory community.

I am not belittling the opposition's concerns. I am only asking them to support a full scientific study of the plant proposal at the state regulatory level and not just the concerns of one member of a three-member local board. In this way, their concerns will be addressed and (in my opinion) answered, and the town will gain a worthwhile increase in income.

Frank Meagher
Feeding Hills

For copies of his photos in this edition, call photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053. Thank you.

FREE SINK BASE



Sale Extended To Feb. 17th

Candlelight Cabinetry
KITCHEN DESIGN SYSTEMS

Is Offering A Free Sink Base
With Any Kitchen Purchased (12 Cabinets Minimum) Featuring Solid Wood Doors, Wood Drawers With Dove Tail, 12 Step Custom Finish... All This And More. This 11' x 10' Kitchen Is On Sale For

OAK/HICKORY	MAPLE	CHERRY/RED BIRCH
Regular \$2,749 ²⁰	\$2,859 ¹⁷	\$2,996 ⁶³
Sale Price \$2,468 ⁴⁰	\$2,567 ¹⁴	\$2,691 ¹⁰

All prices are plus tax and delivery is FREE!! (Appliance, Sink, Faucet, Counter Top and Handles Not Included)

Come Visit Our NEW Showroom!

Kitchens Of Distinction

35 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA • Telephone: (413) 786-7273
Feeding Hills Center - across from the Crossroad Shoppes and Dunkin' Donuts
Hour Open: M, T, W & Fri. 10-5, Thurs. 10-8, Sat. 10-3.

Citizens Group Forms To Support Power Plant

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Surprised, angry, and frustrated over the Zoning Board of Appeals' (ZBA) decision to deny a special permit to allow a gas-fired power plant to be built in the industrial park, a citizens' group has been formed to support Berkshire Power's proposal.

To demonstrate their support for Berkshire Power and for expanded industrial development, Concern Agawam Taxpayers (CAT) plans to lobby elected and appointed officials, gather signatures in a petition drive, and start the process to change the make-up of the ZBA.

Organized by former Town Councilor Vivian Dziardziel, the group will serve as the voice of the "silent majority" who favor the development of the power project.

Noting that the term "silent majority" has been aptly named, Mrs. Dziardziel said, "We have to come out and say (to Town Council): this is what we want. Other than the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA), all the people I have talked to are in support of the power plant. The majority of the people want it."

About 80 people crowded the Community Room of the library when CAT held its first meeting on Wednesday, January 24th. Due to the size of the crowd, the group's second meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 31st (presstime) at The Oaks Banquet House.

Mrs. Dziardziel said she was "floored" by the

number of people who attended CAT's first meeting.

"Electrifying Enthusiasm"

"The room was filled with an electrifying enthusiasm for the project," Mrs. Dziardziel said. "They couldn't wait to put together an action plan. They were chomping at the bit."

After the ZBA voted 2-1 to deny a special permit for the power plant, Mrs. Dziardziel said she began to put together a group to support the power plant project because she feared a "handful of people could derail this project."

Berkshire Power has filed an appeal in Hampden County Superior Court and Project Manager Kenneth Roberts said his company plans to continue with the permitting process before the State Energy Facility Siting Board.

Roberts said he remains confident the plant will ultimately be permitted and built in Agawam. Berkshire Power has no plans to pursue their second choice site in Southwick, he said.

Former Town Councilor Fred Harpin suggested the group look into initiating the legislative process to change the rules under which the ZBA renders its decisions in the future.

Presently, the three members of the ZBA hear petitions for zoning relief and their decisions must be unanimous if a permit is to be granted.

"We're going to follow the process to make the ZBA a five member board so that one member

couldn't hold a project like this hostage," Mrs. Dziardziel said. "The majority would rule."

Worried About Negative Reputation

In a memo to Town Council, CAT maintains that a small group of vocal opponents to the power plant have earned Agawam the reputation of "a community hostile not only to Berkshire Power, but to all future quality industrial growth. We worry that the negative reputation and image will jeopardize the economic future of Agawam."

In the short term, CAT will be collecting signatures in support of Berkshire Power and working with Berkshire Power to send "friendship cards" to town councilors.

The group's long term goal is to encourage future quality industrial growth and the expansion of the town's tax base. Members say they are concerned that residential taxpayers will be forced to pay increasingly higher taxes to provide town services and quality public schools if new businesses are not encouraged to come to Agawam.

"We're going to work closely with Berkshire Power and we'll work with any quality business that asks us," Mrs. Dziardziel said.

Agawam stands to gain \$1 million annually in lieu of taxes from the power plant. Under the terms of the tax treaty proposed by Berkshire Power, the payments would escalate three percent each year for the life of the plant.

Town Council Agenda For Feb. 5th Meeting

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 1/16/96; Minutes - Special Council Meeting of 1/24/96
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a)
1. TR-96-1-Resolution Confirming the Reappointment of Edward P. Shibley, Jr., 55 Rowley St., Agawam, MA to the Agawam Planning Board for a Five Year Term Expiring January 1, 2001 (Mayor).

2. TR-96-2-Resolution Confirming the Reappointments of Julie Siciliano, 76 Elm St., Agawam, MA and Victor J. Carra, 69 Morningside Circle, Feeding Hills, MA to the Agawam Municipal Golf Commission for Three Year Terms Expiring December 31, 1998 (Mayor).

7. Report of Council Committees

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

None.

10. Old Business

(a)

1. TO-96-1-Voucher List (\$108.90)

2. TOR-95-10-An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Town of Agawam, Ch. 155, Art. I, Section 155-15 and Ch. 180, Art. I, Sec. 180-2 (Coun. Bitzas) (1st Reading)(Referred to Ordinance Committee on 12/18/95).

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 15, 1996 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Ladizki for a revision to the Definitive Subdivision Plan of Centerwood Meadows. The proposal is to re-name Arlie Drive to Calico Lane.

By Order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

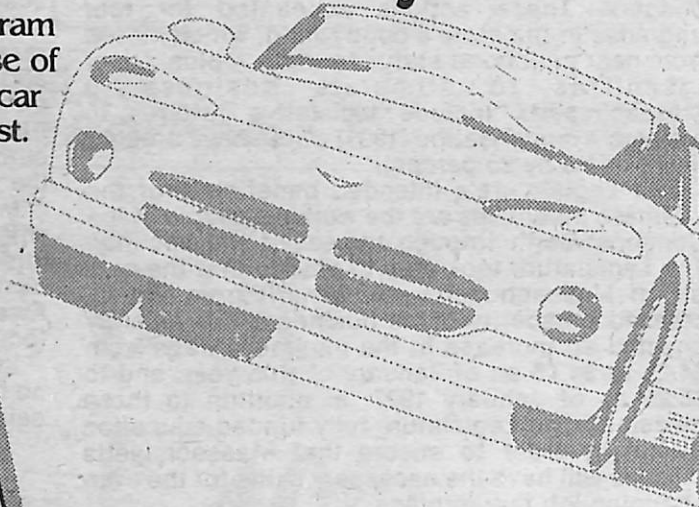
Published: February 1, 1996

Our Car Loans are Supercharged!

Take a test drive today.

Comparing the auto financing program at United Cooperative Bank to those of other banks is like pitting a sports car against a moped. There's no contest. Look at what United offers you:

Same low rates for new and used cars
Low monthly payments
Rebates with AutoPay
Same day approval



Pick your term, Pick your rate

TERM	ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE	MONTHLY PAYMENT PER \$1000
24 months	7.00%	\$44.77
36 months	7.25%	\$30.99
48 months	7.50%	\$24.18
60 months	7.75%	\$20.16

Rates and terms are as of January 18, 1996 and are subject to change.

Get the most car loan performance for the least money. 100% financing is available for new cars. Financing for used cars is available up to 100% of the loan value listed in the Official Used Car Guide NADA.

To apply right over the phone, call us at (413) 787-1700. Or stop by any office and talk to a Personal Banker.

United Cooperative Bank

Innovative ideas, better service!

West Springfield • Holyoke • Downtown Springfield • St. James • Indian Orchard
16 Acres • Westfield • Chester • Northampton (loan office)



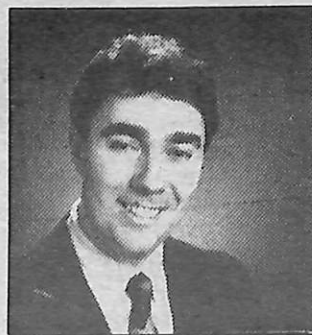
Olde Town Bagel
Main Street, Agawam

The Only Authentic Cappuccino



Now Serving

Lata / Mochachino / Espresso



View From The State House

by State Rep.
Daniel F. Keenan

In Praise Of Pro-Business, Pro-Jobs Stance Of Legislature

Over the last five years, the Massachusetts General Court has transformed itself into a pro-business, pro-jobs branch of government. As a member of the Committee on Taxation, I am pleased with the direction taken by the Legislature to improve the state's economy and business climate.

Since 1991, the Legislature has enacted over one-billion dollars in tax cuts aimed at improving the state's business environment and increasing jobs. Only a few short years ago, Massachusetts was in trouble: the state budget did not balance, the state bond rating was near junk bond status, and the unemployment rate was nine percent in comparison with the U.S. average of 6.7 percent.

The Legislature responded to the fiscal crisis by cutting the costs of businesses already located in-state in order to save jobs. The Legislature realized that in order to retain jobs and businesses, it must respond to the needs of in-state businesses so that they could compete in the global marketplace.

Several major pro-business tax cuts were enacted in 1995. The Single Sales Law for manufacturers provided a tax cut to manufacturers of over \$125 million. Massachusetts lost over 200,000 manufacturing jobs between 1985 and 1994. Under the new law, manufacturers are taxed only on their in-state sales, thereby removing prior penalties for increasing in-state payroll or property and encouraging manufacturers to expand in state.

The Financial Institutions Act provided a tax cut to financial institutions of approximately \$41 million. Prior to this reform, the Massachusetts bank tax rate was the highest in the nation. There are 55,000 jobs associated with the banking industry, and the decrease in the financial tax rate preserved Massachusetts as a financial center.

Since 1991, the Legislature has balanced five budgets. These actions accounted for four upgrades in the state's bond rating, which moved from near junk bond status to triple A-plus. Other incentives to stimulate business in Massachusetts include legislative reforms in workers' compensation (1991) which have brought down costs by 25 percent.

The Legislature's intended beneficiary of the business incentives are the working people of the Commonwealth through increased job security. The Legislature took step to ensure that the people of Massachusetts will benefit from the increased prosperity of its businesses. It recently enacted an increase in the minimum wage from \$4.25 to \$4.75 as of January of this year, and to \$5.25 as of January 1997. In addition to these measures, the Legislature fully funded education reform in order to ensure that Massachusetts citizens will have the necessary skills for the ever-changing job marketplace.

SEE KEENAN - Page 13...



PROMOTING BURN AWARENESS WEEK in Agawam are members of the Agawam Fire Department, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, Town Councilor David Skolnick (a member of the Springfield Shriners and a past potentate), and Fire Chief David Pisano. Pictured from left - Deputy Chief Steve Martin; Firefighters David Wallis, Pam Murphy, and Scott Barker; Skolnick, Johnson, and Pisano. On the truck are AFD members Rich Weld and Gary Brown.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fire-Wise... Risks To Young Children Are Focus Of "National Burn Awareness Week"

Young children run the greatest danger of sustaining severe burns in the home, according to a burn prevention expert. Children under 10 account for as many as 50 percent of all burns requiring hospitalization, and as many as 75 percent of scald burns.

Young children face greater risks for several reasons: they can get around more quickly than adults sometimes realize, and they actually burn more quickly when exposed to a heat source. Also, young children aren't aware of the risks of burns and may not be able to extricate themselves easily from the burn source.

Most burns, especially those received by young children, can be prevented. That's why the Shriners of North America join with the Shriners Burns Institutes every year during "Burn Awareness Week" (February 4 through 10, 1996) to focus attention on the prevention of burns.

"We treat thousands of children at absolutely no charge at our three Shriners Burns Institutes," said Robert B. Bailey, the Shrine's Imperial Potentate, "but an extensive, severe burn is one of the most traumatic injuries the body can suffer, and we would rather help prevent those burns from occurring in the first place. Too many children receive devastating burn injuries in the home, and the scars that result are lifelong. Most of these burns can be prevented simply by following common sense precautions."

The three Shriners Burns Institutes and 19 Shriners Orthopaedic Hospitals provide care free of charge to children up to their 18th birthday. The Shriners Burns Institutes are located in Boston, Cincinnati, and Galveston. The hospitals were founded by the Shrine of North America, an international fraternity with approximately 630,000 members.

The Shriners are offering a booklet on burn prevention free of charge. For your copy of "Burn Prevention Tips," write to the Public Relations Department, Shrine International Headquarters, P.O. Box 31356, Tampa, Florida 33631-3356.

Check our
classifieds
every week

Beth Lacienski
Miss Agawam 1994



Hollywood Productions

Miss Agawam Pageant

9th Annual Miss Agawam Beauty
Pageant & Talent Competition

Lori Andruss Boyle, Director

Miss Agawam 1996

April 1st

Chez Josef

Shoemaker Lane, Agawam

Divisions For Beauty And Talent

Tiny Miss 4-6 years old
Junior Miss 7-9 years old
Pre-Teen 10-12 years old
Teen 13-15 years old
Miss 16-22 years old

Contestants Must Be Agawam Residents

Call 732-3411

For Information And Entry Form

Maria's Pizzeria & Restaurant

Introduces Its New Dinner Menu

Weekly Dinner Specials

Mon. - Homemade Lasagna	\$7.90
Tues. - Baked Stuffed Shells	\$6.50
Wed. - Homemade Pasta Night	\$6.50
Thurs. - Chicken Cacciatore	\$7.50
Fri. - Sirloin Tips	\$7.50
Sat. - Fettucine Alfredo	\$7.00
Sun. - Veal Scallopini	\$7.50

All Dinners Include Salad And Bread

605 Silver Street
Agawam

789-6661

Please Call For Our Daily Lunch Specials, Monday Through Friday



Agawam Obituaries

William J. Sullivan

William J. Sullivan, 80, formerly of 1121 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, a supervisor for the Springfield Water Department, died in Noble Hospital in Westfield.

He worked for the city of Springfield for 40 years, and retired five years ago. Born in Springfield, he was a graduate of Cathedral High School there. He lived in Feeding Hills for 40 years, and was a communicant of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Westfield. He was a Marine Corps veteran. His wife, the former Mary Shea, died in 1989.

He leaves two sons, Daniel J. of Wyben, Westfield, and David M. of Westfield; a daughter, Mary E. Mars of Geneva, Florida; three sisters, Louise Symmonds of East Dennis, Kay E. Pytko of South Yarmouth, and Mrs. Thomas W.P. Sampson of Springfield, and six grandchildren.

The funeral was at Sampson Liberty Street Funeral Home of Springfield, and the church, with burial at St. Mary's Cemetery in Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, 516 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104.

Mabel R. Bessette

Mabel R. (McLeod) Bessette, age 75, of 523 Franklin St. Ext., Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Massachusetts, she was a lifelong resident of the Commonwealth, spending the last 50 years in Agawam.

She was a communicant of St. Theresa's Church.

She was predeceased by her husband, the late Albert E. "Buddy" Bessette, who died August 12, 1995.

She is survived by her three sons, Leslie A. Bessette of Westfield, Richard J. Bessette of Springfield, and John J. Bessette of Pittsfield; two daughters, Peggy A. Mercadante of Feeding Hills and Denise M. Bessette of Burke, Virginia; and 10 grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial Funeral Home, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial in St. Theresa's Church. Burial will be in Bourne National Cemetery on Friday, February 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Arthritis Foundation, c/o Parker Building, 124 Watertown St., Watertown, MA 02172.

Frances M. Sohay

Frances m. Sohay, 61, of 25 Duclos Drive, Feeding Hills, an administrative assistant for the WestMass Area Developmental Office, died at home.

She retired in 1990. She was a secretary in the office of former Springfield Mayor Daniel B. Brunton, and worked in the same capacity at the Springfield Chamber of Commerce. She managed the chamber's women's division.

Born in Springfield, she lived in the city most of her life. She was a graduate of the former Sacred Heart High School, and a communicant of St. Michael's Cathedral. She moved here in 1984.

She leaves a brother, Raymond T. Sohay of Feeding Hills; two sisters, Marjorie A. Bianchi of Feeding Hills and Eileen C. Altobelli of West Springfield; nieces and nephews, and a great-niece.

The funeral was at Agawam Funeral Home, and the church, with burial in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, both in Springfield.

For glossy copies of photos in this edition, please call Jack Devine at 789-0053. Jack has all of the negatives!!!



(413) 786-9000

46 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA 01001

General Legal Services
Including Real Estate • Wills • Bankruptcy
• Auto Accidents • Domestic Matters

Gary G. Grover

Gary G. Grover, 47, of 44 River Road, Agawam, died at home.

He was the manager of Magnani & McCormick Inc. in Enfield. He had worked at True Color Co. in Greenfield and Allied Printing Co. in Manchester, CT.

Born in Springfield, he lived in Coventry, CT, and Charlemont before moving here two years ago.

He leaves his wife, Mary L. (Grinuk) Grover of Northfield; a daughter, Kelly Lynn Grover, at home; his father, Robert A. Grover of Agawam; a brother, Richard T. of Agawam; a sister, Laurie A. Cartwright of Auburn, Maine.

A graveside service was conducted in St. Thomas Cemetery in West Springfield. Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield was in charge of the arrangements.

KEENAN - from Page 12...

The Massachusetts economy is responding favorably to these measures. In the past year, the Massachusetts unemployment rate has dropped below the national rate. Massachusetts has created 200,000 net new jobs since the first half of 1992. The average annual pay of a Massachusetts worker is 15 percent higher than the national average.

The Legislature has taken positive steps to make Massachusetts a competitive place to do business while at the same time ensuring that the benefits serve the working people of this state. As a member of the Committee on Taxation, I am proud of the role I have played in helping to create a climate favorable to retaining and expanding business in the Commonwealth and creating jobs for our citizens.

This cooperative attitude between the Legislature, the business community, and the working people of our state will assure the state's ability to compete in the global marketplace.

**When it comes
time to retire
why not settle
down
with a
good
book?**



WESTBANK'S NEW IRA CERTIFICATES

3 YEAR - \$1,000 MINIMUM

5.65%	5.50%
Annual Percentage Yield*	Interest Rate

2 YEAR - \$1,000 MINIMUM

5.55%	5.40%
Annual Percentage Yield*	Interest Rate

1 YEAR - \$1,000 MINIMUM

5.50%	5.35%
Annual Percentage Yield*	Interest Rate

For additional information on IRA Accounts call Stacia Stepanik, IRA/Personal Banking Administrator, at 747-1431, or stop at any of our eight convenient offices.

Call 747-1400

WESTBANK

PARK WEST BANK AND TRUST COMPANY
WEST SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01090-0149

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) assumes interest remains on deposit for one year at stated rate of interest. Minimum balance to open and earn APY is stated in this ad. Interest compounded and credited to the account monthly. APY's are accurate as of 1/24/96. This offer may be withdrawn at any time. Substantial penalty for early withdrawal. Deposits are F.D.I.C. insured to \$100,000. Fees could reduce earnings on your account. Member FDIC

Gag Rule Bill Hailed By Rep. Dan Keenan

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan, member of the Committee on Insurance, hailed the signing by Governor Weld of H. 5347, An Act Further Protecting the Confidentiality of Patients, which effectively ended enforced gagging of doctors. Inserted by the Committee on Insurance is language prohibiting insurers from penalizing health care providers who, in good faith, give their patients information about their health insurance plan or policy.

Insurance companies can no longer refuse to contract with or compensate providers who communicate with their patients regarding the provisions, terms, or requirements of an insurer's health policies or plans as it relates to the patient's needs, as long as the communication is made in good faith.

This provision was included in the bill in response to numerous complaints regarding restrictions on the ability of physicians and other health care providers to give patients advice about their insurance coverage as it relates to their medical treatment.

"To our knowledge, this bill is the first of its kind in the country. Now Massachusetts citizens need no longer fear that their medical providers will withhold information because of concerns about retribution from insurers," stated Rep. Keenan. "As doctors and other medical personnel assume the role of gatekeepers in the trend toward managed care, it is particularly important that patients have confidence in their providers."

Ag./FH AARP To Hold Luncheon On January 22nd

Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter No. 4915 of AARP held a winter festival luncheon at Storowton Tavern, West Springfield, on January 22nd. Entertainment was provided by the Sunshine Boys. Forty-two members and guests attended the luncheon.

Raffle prizes were generously donated by the following local merchants: F.L. Roberts Golden Car Wash, Machiko Hair and Nails, Richy B's Restaurant, Country Flowers, Dr. Tami Nelson, Surprise! Card and Gift Shop, Ryan Drugs, Olde Town Bagel, Agawam Public Market, Christina's Country Store, and Stan's Soft Serve.

Our next regular meeting will be on February 26th at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. New members are welcome. Call Jessie Fuller, President, at 789-0657 for information.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT AND CALL FIRE DEPARTMENT clean out a fire hydrant in the Walnut Street Extension business district after the blizzard on January 8th. The AFD reminds residents to please keep the hydrants in their neighborhood clear of snow throughout the winter months. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

When It Snows, Fire Dept. Asks Townspeople To Please Help Shovel Fire Hydrants

Members of the Agawam Fire Department and the Agawam Call Fire Department helped clean around the town's fire hydrants during the recent snow emergency. Pictured are Call Firefighters Gary Parrot, Mike Nicora, and David Curley. The department sent out several crews to clear snow-covered hydrants, as many were completely

covered and not visible.

The Fire Department would like to remind residents how important it is to keep the fire hydrants near their homes clear from snow cover. Many times a hydrant is covered. Precious time is wasted trying to find it or trying to clear snow or ice away from the outlets during a fire emergency.

PLEASE REMEMBER that our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. We appreciate those who bring in their copy early!

Check
our
classified

FOR YOUR INVESTMENT NEEDS

Consider Nationwide's Fixed Annuity IRA.

- Tax deferred growth
- Principal and interest once credited are guaranteed against loss
- No initial sales charge on purchase payments
- A wide variety of annuity options

For more information about Nationwide's Fixed Annuity, call our Agency for a free brochure.



Norman Townsend

Townsend
Insurance Agency
786-1720

NATIONWIDE
INSURANCE
Nationwide is on your side

Nationwide is a registered federal service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies • Home Office: One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus OH 43216

"Yes"

You Can Join If You Live Or Work In Agawam



Agawam Federal Credit Union

4 Washington Avenue Extension
Agawam, MA

Please Call
For Details
786-2100



Families



ALL SET FOR THE FORMAL BLACK-TIE GALA TO benefit the Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund include Faith Freeman, Rev. Nathaniel Smith, Bishop Thomas-Dupre, Richard Smith, Susan Cournoyer, Anne Brunelle, and Raymond Miller.

Marc A. Callahan Memorial Committee Ready For Black-Tie Gala Fundraiser

The Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund Committee presents "A Very Special Evening Part V," a formal black-tie gala event scheduled for February 10th at The Ramada Sovereign Hotel and Conference Center, 1080 Riverdale Road, West Springfield.

This year's awards recipients will be Mark Mullins, Tom & June Govuan (People Against Cancer).

Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served from 6:00-7:00 p.m., dinner at 7:00.

Live entertainment will be provided all evening by Fr. Bill Hamilton, pianist/vocalist; the Third Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir, under the direction of Jessie Deloach; Al Lake, guitar/vocalist;

and a special performance by the United States Ballroom Dancing Association, Diane Sayer, Director. Then dance the evening away with Johnnie Williams.

Raffles and door prizes will abound. Donation is \$32 per person. All proceeds will benefit the VNA of Pioneer Valley, Inc., HIV/AIDS. Check and contributions should be made payable to: The Marc A. Callahan Memorial Fund.

Poolside rooms available with breakfast for two—\$50.

For tickets or further information, contact Raymond Miller (525-4238); Faith Freeman (594-5355); Elaine Smith (786-3091).

Calendar Of February Events For Agawam's Golden Age Clubs

February 2nd: Chapter 1—Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. to take place in the Community Room at the Agawam Police Station.

February 7th: Chapter 2—Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with gift bingo.

February 14th: Chapter 1—Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with entertainment by the Senior Center Melody Band.

February 21st: Chapter 2—Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with guest Mr. Lawrence Gormally, who will speak on the Brownstone Quarries in East Longmeadow.

February 23rd: Chapter 2—Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

February 28th: Chapter 1—Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. with guest Mr. Richard Garvey from the Springfield Newspapers.

AHS's Class Of 1946 Sets Dates For 50th Year Reunion

Agawam High School's class of 1946 is planning a two-day event this coming fall to commemorate its 50th year reunion.

On Saturday, October 5th, cocktails and dinner will take place at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills. On Sunday, October 6th, a boat ride and brunch will take place on the Connecticut River.

If class members could please provide some feedback on the boat ride, it would be appreciated. Contact Martha (Beuninger) Popovich at 734-1253, or Raoul Sands at 789-6733.

If you know of anyone who has moved since 1988, please contact Martha or Raoul. Let's make it a big, fun event!

Check our classified pages every week

Real Estate Law

★ SALES

★ PURCHASES

★ REFINANCES

★ RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

★ PURCHASE AND SALES AGREEMENTS

Law Offices of
BONAVITA, GORDON, DANIE & WALSH, P.C.
2 South Bridge Drive
Agawam, Massachusetts 01001
789-2020

BREAKFAST

LUNCH

AMERICAN CLASSICS

Restaurant & Take-Out

A Smoke-Free Restaurant

The MacWilliams Family Invites You To Come And Try Our:

Daily Lunch & Breakfast Specials * Gourmet Soups
* Homemade Desserts * Flavored Coffees (Freshly Ground)

Everyday Lunch Special:

2 Texas Mini-Dogs, Chips, Pickle, And Small Drink

\$1.99

740 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills

Open: Monday—Saturday, 6:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday (Breakfast Only), 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sullivan Family Announces Weddings Of Their Daughters

Jeremiah T. and Marylyn D. Sullivan announce the weddings of their daughters, Jerilynn Ann Sullivan and Kelly Deanne Sullivan.

Agawam Congregational Church was the setting for the April 1, 1995 wedding of Jerilynn Ann Sullivan and Robert Peter Labas. A reception was held for the couple and their guests at Chez Josef in Agawam.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Jeremiah T. Sullivan of 23 Mardale Avenue, Agawam, and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beniamino G. Tucci of Agawam. The groom is the son of Ms. Janice Labas of Cottonwood Road, Newington, Connecticut, and Mr. Peter R. Labas of Hubbard Road, Higganum, Connecticut. He is the grandson of Mr. & Mrs. Walter Gotowala of Newington, Connecticut.

Kelly Sullivan attended her sister as maid of honor, and Antonio Calabrese served as best man. Other members of the wedding party were Melissa M. Sullivan, Cheryl Labas, Cynthia Labas, Amy Labas, Amanda Tilden, Brenda Dean, Nicole Dean, Thomas Sullivan, Peter Anop, Bradford Tilden, Matthew Gotowala, and T.J. Dean.

The bride is a 1981 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1985 graduate of Western New England College with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. She is employed by Continuum-Vantage of Wethersfield, Connecticut.

Her husband is a graduate of Newington High School, Newington, Connecticut, and Bentley College, Waltham, Massachusetts, with a bachelor of science degree in finance and economics. He is employed by the Aetna Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut.

Kelly Deanne Sullivan and Robert Francis Martin exchanged wedding vows on October 27, 1995 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah T. Sullivan of 23 Mardale Avenue, Agawam, and the granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Beniamino G. Tucci of Agawam. The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. Trudy A. Thibeault of 77 Sherwood Road, Springfield, Massachusetts, and Mr. Richard R. Martin of 11 Santa Barbara Street, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Jerilynn Sullivan Labas attended her sister as matron of honor, and Richard G. Martin served his brother as best man.

The bridesmaids were Melissa M. Sullivan, Mary Jane Rickson, Nancy J. Ferriter, Suzanne P. Girard, Susan E. Oliveri, and Leigh A. Daniele. The ushers were Thomas C. Sullivan, Denis M. Willett, Michael A. Ritchie, Sean S. Provost, Timothy J. Logan, James M. Moriarty, and James M. Powers. Greeters at the ceremony for the wedding couple were Samantha J. Ferriter, Amanda L. Tilden, and Bradford W. Tilden.

A reception was held for the couple and their guests at the Fairview Knights of Columbus in Fairview, Massachusetts.

The bride is a 1988 graduate of Agawam High School and Springfield Technical Community College.

Her husband is a graduate of the former Classical High School in Springfield. He received his bachelor's degree from Potsdam College, Potsdam, New York, and his master's degree from Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. He is employed by the Department of Youth Services in Springfield.

"Be Our Valentine" At Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library is having an evening storytime called "BE OUR VALENTINE." Agawam and Feeding Hills families with kids aged three and up are invited to come and share Valentine stories and crafts on Monday or Tuesday, February 12th or 13th, at 6:30 p.m.

Parents with a 9:00-5:00 schedule are especially encouraged to come.

Call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper Street to register for one or the other of the program times.

Olde Town Bagel
Main Street, Agawam

The Only Authentic Cappuccino

Now Serving
Lata / Mochachino / Espresso





MR. & MRS. ROBERT MARTIN



MR. & MRS. ROBERT LABAS

Theosophical Society Of Springfield To Present Workshop On Past Life Regression

The Theosophical Society of Springfield will present a workshop on past life regression on Sunday, February 11th, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 669 Main Street, Agawam (Route 159). The suggested donation is \$5.

The guest speaker will be Dr. Norton Berkowitz. For those who have often felt a sense of déjà vu, an instant like or dislike of another, or have wondered if you have ever lived before, this workshop should prove insightful.

Dr. Berkowitz is an educational psychologist who specializes in hypnosis as a therapeutic tool. There will be an opportunity for audience participation.

participation.

The Theosophical Society in Springfield, MA, is a branch of a worldwide organization, founded in 1875, dedicated to the promotion of brotherhood and the encouragement of the study of comparative religion, philosophy, and science to the end that man may better understand himself and his place in the universe. The society stands for complete freedom of individual search and belief.

For more information, call either of the following Theosophical officers: President Robbie Cox, (413) 567-8078, or Vice President Elaine Kuzmeskus, (203) 668-0373.

Check our classified pages every week!

Very gentle. Very affordable.



Stephen Jacaparo, DMD
Member: Agawam Board of Health
Former Professor: STCC
Former Clinical Consultant: STCC

Stephen Jacaparo, DMD

You can get dental care that won't break your budget. If you want help for loose fillings, bleeding gums, or just a comfy cleaning, it's time for you to call Dr. Jacaparo.

Gentle treatments and procedures:

- Gentle injections keep you comfortable
- Crowns & bridges molded for a perfect fit
- Nonsurgical gum care is easy on your nerves
- State-of-the-art sterilization for your protection
- Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Delta Dental
- Insurance accepted as partial payment
- Payment plans to accommodate your budget
- Discounts for senior citizens • Other discounts available
- Evening & Sat. appts.

Call today!

786-8177



1379 Main Street, Agawam



STACY INSURANCE AGENCY

FACT:

- You Don't Have To Join An Auto Club To Save 10%.
- Liberty Mutual Offers 10% Just For Being A Good Driver (SDIP 9 & 10).
- No Interest Billing Or Finance Charges.
- 25% Senior Discount.
- 25% Down - 10 Months To Pay.
- We Do The Work For You - No Extra Fees For Registry Service.
- Free Notary Service To All Our Customers.
- No Auto Club Dues.

Save - Save!!!

789-2737
786-5366

"For All Your Insurance Needs."

31 SOUTHWICK STREET • FEEDING HILLS 01030

Fax
789-0406

Fitness First Assists Women's Shelter



DARYL LYN BROWN

Daryl Lyn Brown Engaged To Wed Christopher Greeson

Ed Brown of Feeding Hills and Kathleen Brown are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Daryl Lyn, to Christopher Greeson of Gulfport, Florida.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Agawam High School and St. Petersburg Junior College. She is currently at the University of South Florida.

The prospective bridegroom is a student at Pinellas Technical School, where he is currently working on his electrician's license.

The couple are planning a July 1996 wedding in Florida, where they will reside.

Classified ads are \$10 for 30 words or less. Please bring them to the office or mail to Box 263, FH 01030. We open at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.



KURT WELKER, owner of Fitness First Health & Racquet Club, and Denise Moffatt (left), Fitness First marketing director, presented a check for \$1,000 to Kathleen Dowd for the Battered Women's Shelter/COMPANERAS recently. The check represented the proceeds raised from Fitness First's Annual Golf Tournament last fall. It was presented for the third year in memory of Fitness First's aquatic instructor, Vicki Sleeper. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 5th: Baked chicken leg, potato wedges, corn, oatmeal bread, banana.

Tuesday, February 6th: Birthdays & anniversaries—pasta & bean soup, meatball grinder, tossed salad, cake.

Wednesday, February 7th: Open turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, whole wheat bread, pineapple chunks.

Thursday, February 8th: Salisbury steak, egg noodles, mixed vegetables, pumpernickel bread, tapioca pudding with whipped topping.

Friday, February 9th: Valentine's Day Party—sliced pot roast, twice-baked potatoes, baby Belgium carrots, roll, sweetheart cake.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

A heart-shaped basket to have and to hold!

Fill this gold-colored wire basket with goodies for your Valentine. A beautiful value for any occasion.

\$6.99



Hallmark



Surprise!
Your Hallmark Card & Gift Shop
838 Suffield St., Agawam, MA
Rte. 75 at Southgate Plaza
786-2407

• Two Winners Take All
Over \$3,500 In Prize \$\$\$

Friday Bingo

**Immaculate
Conception Church**

475 Main Street, West Springfield

**Doors Open At 5:30 P.M.
W.T.A. 7:00 P.M.**

For Information, Call 733-8747
Or Check At J & T's

Additional Parking—
Rear Of The Rectory

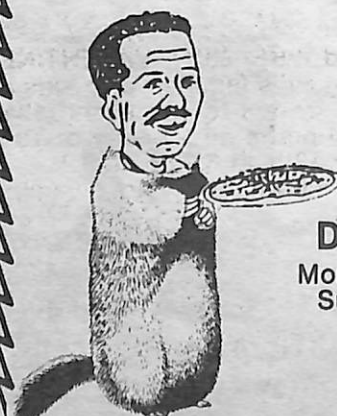
Luigi's

Pizza 'n' Pasta

7 South End Bridge Circle
Agawam

789-3222

**Free
Delivery!**



"Groundhog
Jim Planzo!"

Delivery Hours:
Mon. - Sat., 5 PM - 9 PM
Sunday, 3 PM - 8 PM

**We Have
Heart-Shaped
Pizzas...**

Business Hours:
Mon. - Fri., 9 AM - 10 PM
Saturday, 11 AM - 10 PM
Sunday, 3 PM - 8 PM



NANCY ALBANO & JOHN A. GENTILE

Nancy Albano To Wed John A. Gentile

Nancy Albano, daughter of the late Ignazio (Al) Albano and Mrs. Ignazio Albano of Feeding Hills, is engaged to wed John A. Gentile, son of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gentile of Feeding Hills.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Agawam High School. She is the owner of The Clip Shop in the Feeding Hills area.

The future bridegroom is a graduate of Agawam High School. He is the assistant manager of Wilbraham Tire & Auto.

The couple are planning a May 1996 wedding.

Toastmasters To Next Meet On Feb. 8th

The next meeting of the Agawam/West Side Toastmasters will be held Thursday, Feb. 8th.

Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday of every month at Country Estates Nursing Home, Route 75, Agawam, at 7:00 p.m.

Please park in the rear of the building. Call 786-6920 or 789-1366 for more information.

Ag. Senior Ctr. February Calendar

- * **Friday, February 2nd:**
9:00 a.m. Free diabetic check.
1:00 p.m. Pitch tournament.
- * **Saturday, February 3rd:**
5:30 p.m. Bingo.
- * **Monday, February 5th:**
9:00 a.m. Weldon Center Hearing Van. Free hearing check. By appointment—786-0400, ext. 242.
- * **Tuesday, February 6th:**
9:00 a.m. S.H.I.N.E. representative available to assist you. Call the Senior Center for appointment.
11:30 a.m. Birthday and anniversaries celebrated. By reservation only.
12:30 p.m. Movie of the week.
1:00 p.m. Free blood pressure check. No appointment.
- * **Wednesday, February 7th:**
9:00 a.m. Podiatry with Dr. Dickert. By appointment.
9:00 a.m. Free tax assistance. By appointment. Call 786-0400, ext. 242.
1:30 p.m. Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 2.
- * **Thursday, February 8th:**
9:00 a.m. Podiatry with Dr. Salem. By appointment.
- * **Friday, February 9th:**
Valentine's Day special dinner. Reservations open Friday, January 26th.
- * **Saturday, February 10th:**
5:30 p.m. Bingo.
- * **Monday, February 12th:**
1:00 p.m. Bingo.
- * **Tuesday, February 13th:**
12:30 p.m. Movie of the week.
- * **Wednesday, February 14th:**
9:00 to 11:15 a.m. Free income tax assistance by appointment.
1:30 p.m. Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 1.
- * **Thursday, February 15th:**
9:00 a.m. Foot care nurses. By appointment.
- * **Friday, February 16th:**
1:00 p.m. Pitch tournament continues.
- * **Saturday, February 17th:**
5:30 p.m. Bingo.
- * **Monday, February 19th:**
Senior Center Closed - "Presidents' Day."
- * **Tuesday, February 20th:**
12:30 p.m. Movie.
- * **Wednesday, February 21st:**
9:00 to 11:15 a.m. Free tax assistance by appointment.
1:30 p.m. Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 2.
- * **Friday, February 23rd:**
1:00 p.m. Pitch tournament continues.
- * **Saturday, February 24th:**
5:30 p.m. Bingo.
- * **Monday, February 26th:**
1:00 p.m. A.A.R.P. meeting.
- * **Tuesday, February 27th:**
12:30 p.m. Movie.
- * **Wednesday, February 28th:**
9:00 to 11:15 a.m. Free tax assistance by appointment.
1:30 p.m. Golden Agers' meeting, Chapter 1.

VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH:

Here we go again ... another party just around the corner! We just don't like it too quiet at the Senior Center, and Betty (our chef) just can't put those pots and pans down.

She has planned a "great" menu for the occasion: sliced pot roast, twice-baked potatoes, baby Belgium carrots, rolls, and sweetheart cake. All of this and entertainment, too: "Intimate Sounds" will be joining us to sing all of our favorite "sweetheart songs."

Reservations open January 26th; call 786-0400, ext. 242. Here is a reminder—tickets will go on sale at 11:00 a.m. on February 9th, and the dining room will open at 11:15 a.m.

Crafters Being Sought By Jr. Women's Club For Annual Arts & Crafts Fest On June 1st

Crafters are sought for the Agawam Junior Women's Club 22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 1st from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The Festival will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam. All types of artisans and crafters are invited to participate in this event.

participate in this event.

The show will be juried and feature 80-100 exhibitors. Admission is free and all proceeds benefit the AJWC Scholarship Fund.

For more information or an application, call Margaret at 786-2651 or Patti at 786-6491.

ONE SOURCE FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

Life...health...
home...car...
business.

Call us today for the quality protection and professional service you deserve.



Norman Townsend

Townsend Insurance Agency

786-1720



**NATIONWIDE
INSURANCE**

Nationwide is on your side

Nationwide is a registered federal service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated Companies • Home Office: One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, OH 43216

Law Offices Of
Patricia M. Hebert
P.C.



Divorce & Family Law

- Visitation
- Adoptions
- Alimony
- Child Support
- Conservator
- Contempt
- Guardian
- Mediation
- Custody
- Prenuptial Agreements
- Modification
- Estates
- Restraining Orders
- Wills
- Paternity

786-2211

786-2211

360 Springfield Street
Agawam

"Special"
Collectors' Cards On Sale!

Topps
 Fleer
 Ultra
 Upper Deck

**Buy One
 Get
 One
 FREE!**

Flair
 NBA
 Pinnacle

Church News - continued...

News And Notes From
F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Sunday School for children and adults begins at 9:00 a.m. Children are then welcome to attend the Service of Holy Communion with their parents at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Donaldson will preach a sermon entitled "Fast Times at Feeding Hills Congo." Nursery care will be provided.

Faith Over Fear: A Lenten Journey is a six-week spiritual quest sponsored by the Feeding Hills Congregational Church and the Agawam Congregational Church.

The first three Sunday meetings in the series will take place at the Feeding Hills church on February 25th and March 3rd and 10th. The concluding three meetings will take place at the Agawam church on March 17th, 24th, and 31st.

The meetings will begin at 7:15 p.m. with prayer and singing, and will include a time for meditation and discussion. Please call either the Feeding Hills Congregational Church at 786-5061, or the Agawam Congregational Church at 786-7111 for more information.

The Annual Meeting of the church which was held on Sunday, January 28th, was adjourned and will reconvene on Sunday, February 11th, at 12:00 noon.

The Christian Education Board will serve a spaghetti luncheon before the meeting as a fundraiser. The meal will include spaghetti, homemade bread, salad, beverage, and dessert.

On the calendar this week:

Sunday, February 4th: 9:00 a.m., Sunday School/Adult Bible Literacy; 10:00 a.m., Service of Holy Communion; Blanket Sunday; 11:30 a.m., Christian Ed meeting; 1:30 p.m., Youth Group to Rescue Mission.

Monday, February 5th: 5:15 p.m., Girl Scouts.

Tuesday, February 6th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, February 7th: 2:30 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, February 8th: 7:30 p.m., Deacons' meeting; 7:45 p.m., Cub Scouts Committee meeting.

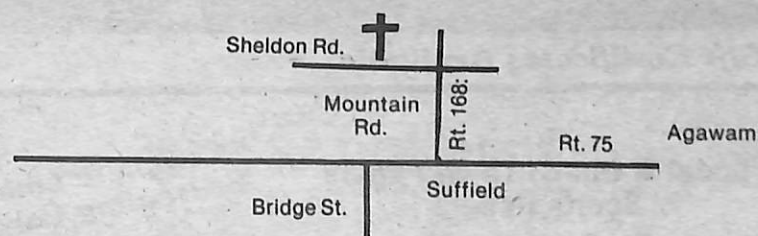
Check our classified
pages every week
ADVERTISER NEWS

Best
Local
News!



Church of the **APOSTLES**
A Foursquare Gospel Church

- Evangelical And Charismatic
- Sermons Based Upon Weekly Scripture Readings; What The Passages Mean And How They Apply To Our Lives Today
- Contemporary Worship Music
- Children's Ministry Available During Services
- 10:00 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship Services At The VFW Hall, Located At 972 Sheldon Road (Off Mountain Road - Rt. 168) In Suffield, Connecticut
- One Of The Fastest Growing Protestant Denominations
- For Further Information, Please Call Reverend Peter Monahan, Pastor, At (860) 668-4444 Or (413) 786-8735.



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

"Be All That You Can Be"

"Be all that you can be!" With that catchy phrase, the U.S. Army seeks to encourage young people to join their ranks. Going one step further, the Marine Corps advertises, "The few. The proud. The Marines."

In each case the message is the same, as the military appeals to the innate desire in people to be great. Back in our gradeschool days, when we thought about what we'd like to be when we grew up, each of us aspired to be great at whatever we would do. Even in those days, our ambition was to excel, whether it be at sports or something else.

God wants us to be great, too. It is not God's desire that we should fail, or even be mediocre, in what we do. God wants those of us who are married to be great spouses. He wants those of us who have children to be great parents. God wants us to be the very best we can be. We do not have to be mediocre in these important areas of our lives. The Bible tells us it is possible to be great, because God makes it possible.

In 1 Corinthians, the Bible says, "Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed." The word that is used in this passage for spiritual gift is one with a broad application. The word used here is **Charisma**. Many people have heard of this word, which is often used to describe charming or

dynamic people. Actually, the word **Charisma** has nothing to do with being charming or dynamic, but it does have a wonderful meaning.

Charisma is a gift of grace given by God. Its first application would address our overall spiritual condition, and God's remedy for it. Each of us knows that we do not measure up to our own

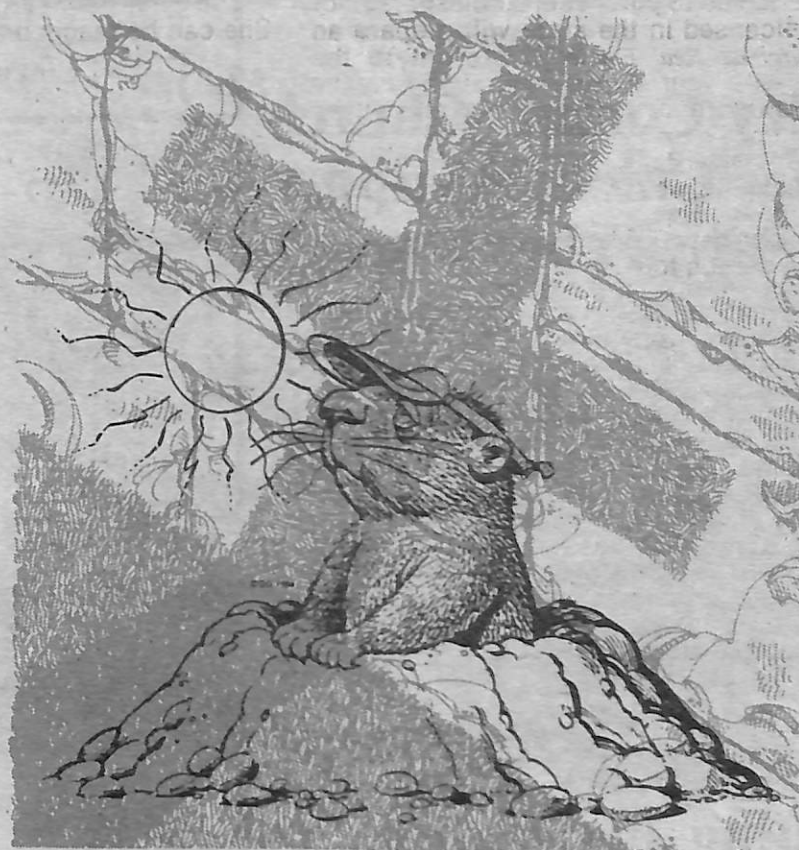
standards for ourselves, that none of us is perfect. How much more do we not measure up to the standards of a perfect and holy God? Yet in this, as well as many other passages in the Bible, we are told that God has made a provision for our situation. Jesus said, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Once we have received, or entered into, this part of the **Charisma** of God, there are other ways in which God would have us be great. The word **Charisma** also refers to the building of character in people. Most, if not all, of us want to be people of great integrity. Those of us who are parents want to be the type of people our children can look up to with respect.

Yet we also know that in some ways, we can be shallow. However, our character flaws do not have to be permanent. The Bible says if we confess our sins, God will indeed forgive us, and not only that, but He will also cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Our character is not only important to us, it is also important to God. It is worth noting that all of the qualifications for Church leadership listed in the Bible are related to character rather than to abilities.

Another aspect of **Charisma** is an empowering by God to do special things, or miracles. Throughout the Bible we read about God's servants performing various miracles, such as healings. That is not just myth or folklore. It really happened then and it really happens today. Miracles, by definition, don't happen often, but they do occur. Along these lines, **Charisma** also refers to the answering of prayers. God wants to bless us.

It seems like all we hear or read about these days is there is not enough to go around. Whether it is fuel or food or money, the mindset of the world seems to be there is not enough for everybody. However, there is no shortage of **Charisma** from God. For those who have "joined the ranks" of the people of God, there is plenty of **Charisma** to go around. Be all that you can be!

Whose Shadow Are
You Looking For?

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty"

Psalm 91:1

ST. DAVID'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Sunday 8 & 10 A.M.; Saturday 5 P.M.

Sunday School & Nursery: Sunday 10 A.M.

(10 A.M. Service meets at Agawam Middle School, 68 Main St.)

REV. LEN COWAN

522 SPRINGFIELD STREET, FEEDING HILLS
786-6133



Spotlight On Business

Century 21

by
John Schuler
Real Estate
Consultant

Newschu Real Estate, Inc.
820 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA



The American Dream... Owning Your Own Home

Home is where you and your family live and laugh together ... where you enjoy today and plan for tomorrow.

Buying a home today is still as much a part of the American Dream as ever. It is one of the biggest decisions you will make, not one to be taken lightly. Homes cost a lot of money and require a commitment to maintenance. Renting is much less complicated. So why buy a home?

Home ownership provides key financial benefits. Owning your own home gives you a sense of freedom, a feeling of security and pride. All in all, home ownership is generally a high performing investment well worth the effort.

Purchasing a home can be a complicated and confusing process, especially for first-time buyers, and according to a CENTURY 21 survey, 40 percent of all home buyers in Massachusetts are first-time buyers. Throughout the process, buyers will encounter a variety of unfamiliar real estate terms and procedures. There are several key terms and procedures associated with purchasing real estate that are helpful to know.

When you decide to purchase, a salesperson or broker duly licensed in the state will prepare an Offer To Purchase Real Estate to present to the seller along with your earnest money deposit. The earnest money is a good faith payment and will be added to your down payment.

Upon acceptance of the Offer To Purchase Real Estate, the next step is for the sellers and buyers to enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement, which is an agreement between the buyer and seller of real property, setting forth the terms of the sale in more detail than the Offer To Purchase Real Estate and is usually reviewed by an attorney for both sides. A down payment of three percent to five percent of the purchase price is normally required upon execution of the agreement and held in an escrow account until the terms of the agreement are fulfilled.

After signing the Purchase and Sale Agreement, the buyer must make application to the Bank/ Mortgage Company or Credit Union for a mortgage commitment, which is a written promise to make a loan for a specified amount and on specified terms, by a set date. A mortgage is a lien placed on the property by the lender and the lien secures the mortgage note. The note is the buyer's promise to pay the mortgage amount of the real estate in addition to a stated interest rate over a specified period of time.

Upon finding your dream home, the lender begins the application process and orders an appraisal of the property. An appraisal is an estimate of the property's value.

Once a mortgage commitment has been obtained, the buyer and seller must legally close the real estate transaction. Before this can happen, an attorney representing the lender but paid by the buyer, must order a Title Search which is a review of all the recorded documents affecting the property to determine the present condition of the title.

The closing is a meeting where the buyer, seller, and attorneys review, sign, and exchange the final documents. At the closing, the seller delivers the deed to the buyer which legally transfers the title from the seller to the buyer.

Searching and purchasing your dream house is no easy job. A professional real estate agent's knowledge, experience, and access to all types of properties can simplify the process.

When you are ready to begin your home search, we can help you and your family find just the right home for you.

(John Schuler is the Broker/Owner of CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., located in Southgate Plaza, Agawam, MA [413-789-1117].)

Shirley Fullam Joins Stearns & Yerrall

George R. Yerrall, President of Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors, is pleased to announce that Shirley Fullam has joined the Agawam office of Stearns & Yerrall, Inc. Realtors.

Shirley brings extensive customer service to the company with over 30 years in real estate sales. She previously owned and operated Fullam & Fullam Realtors in West Springfield for seven years, and she recently spent two years selling real estate in Tucson, Arizona.

Shirley is a graduate of Mount Ida College and she holds the prestigious designation Graduate, Realtor Institute (GRI). Shirley is currently a member of the Greater Springfield Association of Realtors, Massachusetts Association of Realtors, the National Association of Realtors, and the Greater Springfield Home Builders Association.

Shirley currently resides in Agawam.

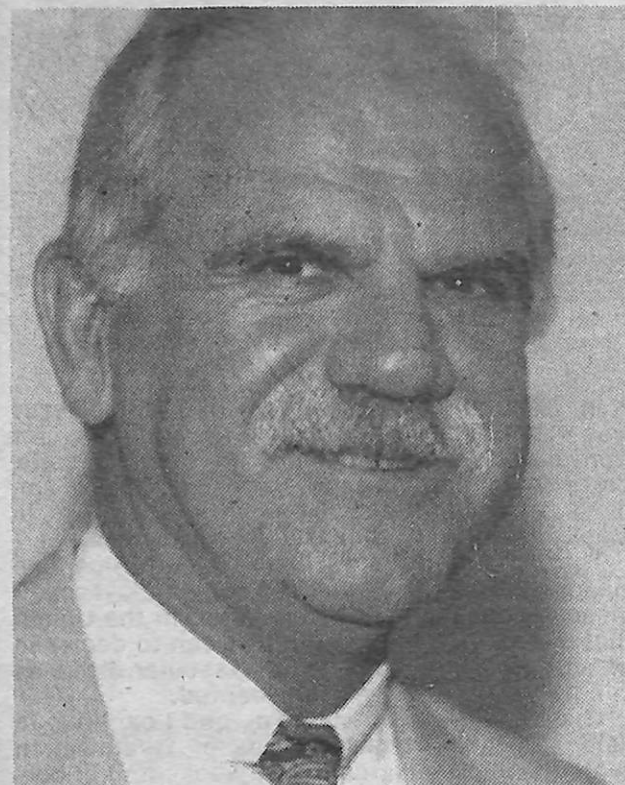
W. Lynn Boss Named "Rookie Of The Year" By George & Green

George and Green Real Estate Col, Inc. is proud to announce that W. Lynn Boss, a Realtor with its Westfield office at 18 Elm Street, has received the company's award for Rookie of the Year. Lynn's first year in real estate was a remarkable success, having had sales in excess of a million dollars. Lynn specializes in guiding first-time buyers through the process of realizing their dream of buying a home.

Lynn is a Southwick native and a 10-year resident of Westfield. Her two children attend Westfield schools. Her experience as a secretary in real estate and property management, plus an Associates Degree in Administrative Management, are skills that she brings to her career.

Let Lynn help with all your real estate needs. She can be reached at 568-2851.

**NO ONE covers all
the hometown news
like us, every week
ADVERTISER NEWS
Subscribe today!!!**



JIM PIRRO

Ney Dental Internat'l Appoints Jim Pirro As Export Sales Manager

H. George Wolfe, President of Ney Dental International, is pleased to announce the appointment of Jim Pirro, CDT, to Manager of Export Sales.

Mr. Pirro joined Ney in 1981 as Manager of Technical and Laboratory Services. In 1987, he was appointed National Accounts Manager; in 1992, he became Export Technical Manager; and in 1994, he was promoted to Director of Education and Technical Services.

Mr. Pirro received his dental training in the United States Navy, and is a Certified Dental Technician. He is an associated member of The American Society of Master Dental Technicians, and has a bachelor of science degree in business management.

Mr. Pirro has over 37 years experience in all phases of dental laboratory technology, and has given lectures and presented clinics throughout the world to laboratory and dentist groups. He has written a number of technical articles that have been published in the dental trade journals.

The Pirro family resides in Agawam.

THE LEGEND HAS ARRIVED!

GOLD'S GYM.

"A License of Gold's Gym"
West Springfield, Mass.
(across from the Big E)

1st Year Anniversary

HUGE 22,000 SQ. FT.

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

7 Days Free With Coupon

Expires 2-8-96
(Must Present Coupon)

Family & Group Rates Available
15% Off Senior Discount

Get Tan Now!
WOLFF TURBO TANNING

Call (413) 746-2677

GOLD'S GYM
1452 Memorial Ave.
(Across from the BIG E)
West Springfield, MA

For Your Health



Living Well

by Rick Hersom
Fitness Director
Fitness First Health
and Fitness Center
60 N. Westfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-1460

Cost Of Heart Disease

In 1994, the estimated cost of heart disease was \$128 billion. Every 34 seconds someone dies from cardiovascular disease. In Massachusetts, one in four residents suffer from some form of cardiovascular disease ... 38 percent of all deaths in Massachusetts were caused by heart diseases.

This information provided by the American Heart Association is staggering. Cardiovascular diseases are the number one killer in the United States and we need to do all we can to decrease unneeded deaths. Many cardiovascular diseases can be controlled or even prevented.

There are two steps that you and I can take to help stop this runaway disease: 1) education (which we will talk about this week); and 2) contribution (which we will talk about next week).

Educating yourself and those around you is the first step to control heart disease. The American Heart Association is a great resource for education. They have informational flyers that they can send you or your organization, and they also have people that give lectures on heart-smart topics. Try setting up something for your business, social organization, or maybe with your children's school nurse.

Your local hospital is another great resource. The Cardiac Rehabilitation Director at Noble Hospital spoke to a group at Fitness First. Your local library, of course, is another great source for information, and let's not forget the health professionals at Fitness First.

The professionals at Fitness First can educate you as to the benefits that exercising can have on your heart. So, educate yourself about cardiovascular disease, risk factors, proper nutrition, exercise, and other ways to prevent heart problems.

Women's Wellness Part Of Forum At Fitness First Feb. 13th

Fitness First Health & Fitness Center, together with Noble Hospital, *Women Unlimited* Magazine, and Health New England, will be sponsoring a special **Women's Wellness Forum** entitled "Taking Care of Yourself" on Tuesday, February 13th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Fitness First in Feeding Hills.

There are three speakers scheduled for the evening. Robert S. Wool, M.D., OB-GYN, has been practicing at Noble Hospital since 1988, and he is certified by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Wool also holds a faculty teaching position with the Tufts University School of Medicine.

Dawn Sanders Turgeon, R.N., C, is the Psychiatric Nurse Manager for the inpatient unit at Noble Hospital. She is certified in psychiatric and mental health nursing, and has been practicing for over 13 years.

Heather Giordano, M.S., Exercise Physiology, is currently a fitness consultant at Fitness First and Canyon Ranch Health Spa. Heather has given over 50 speaking engagements to various organizations on a variety of topics including women's health issues.

This Forum will address women's health issues, such as: Osteoporosis, Menopause, Women's Stress, and the Importance of Exercise. There will be exhibit booths with informational materials and representatives to answer questions on sensitive topics.

Exhibitors include Noble Hospital, *Women Unlimited* Magazine, Fitness First, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Diabetes, the YWCA, and more.

Pre-registration is required at Fitness First by calling 786-1460 or stopping by. A \$5 donation per person will benefit the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter.

Check our classified



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

The Overuse And Abuse Of Prescription Drugs

Much media attention in the United States is focused on a "War on Drugs." From the drug lords of South America to the pushers of our inner cities, we talk of ridding America of a spreading cancer.

The magnitude of the illegal drug trade cannot be overstated, and the consequences cannot be ignored. The drug problem in America is a national disgrace.

But, overshadowed by the bold headlines of the nation's dailies is another drug problem of equally serious concern: the overuse and abuse by Americans of prescription and over-the-counter drugs.

We are a nation on medication. From the day we are born until the day we die, we look for a pill for every illness. We hope for miracle cures for pains.

We have drugs that increase the odds of conceiving a child, and we have drugs that prevent conception. We have drugs that stimulate our children; we have drugs that calm them down. There are drugs that keep us awake, and others that put us to sleep.

We suffer from obesity, high blood pressure, blood sugar problems, and high levels of cholesterol ... all of which can be improved with a change of lifestyle. We choose instead new drugs developed as an alternative to a healthy diet, regular exercise, and conservative care.

Drugs have gradually become accepted as an integral part of our everyday lives. Years of sophisticated advertising campaigns at a cost of several million dollars per day have convinced most of us that prescription and over-the-counter drugs are safe, effective, and necessary.

The shrewd, psychological advertising techniques lead us to believe that if we have this pain or that ache, we should simply take *Product X* (a powder, pill, or potion) and mask the symptom. A more accurate statement relative to the safety of medications would be that in some cases, some people get some benefit from some drugs.

Even the drug industry is reluctant to certify the safety and reliability of their products. Giant drug manufacturers have admitted there is a problem of toxicity with all drugs. It is a well-established fact that there is no drug presently existing on the market which is devoid of side effects.

Here are two common misconceptions: the first is that drugs must be safe if prescribed by a doctor and approved by the government; the second is that over-the-counter drugs must not do very much or else they wouldn't be available without a prescription. Both of these statements are false, and believing them could cause serious health problems.

By choice, chiropractors do not prescribe drugs. The Schlaffer Chiropractic Office understands that good health is not found in a tablet or bottle. Health comes from within.

With proper spinal care, good nutrition, regular exercise, proper rest and mental attitude, your body (which was designed to be a self-healing organism) will function that way ... naturally.

Call us at 789-1369 or 789-1073.

Nancy Dell To Speak On "Using Your Mind To Lose Weight"

It takes mental energy to follow a healthy eating plan. Learn to use your mind to help you manage your weight!

Discover how to handle a food craving, take control of stress eating, and to break bad habits and adopt good ones at "Using Your Mind To Lose Weight," Nancy Dell's February wellness seminar at Fitness First. The seminar will be held on Monday, February 12th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is recommended. All interested persons should call (786-1460) or stop by Fitness First to register. Seating is limited, and there's a \$3 fee per person.



Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Food To Lower Risk Of Stroke

Did you make a New Year's resolution to eat better? Then fill at least half your dinner plate with fruits and vegetables. Eating plenty of fruits and vegetables may protect against the development of stroke for men, according to the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Matthew W. Gillman, M.D., from Harvard Community Health Plan in Boston, and colleagues, surveyed 832 middle-aged men who have been part of the Framingham Study to examine the effect of fruit and vegetable intake on the risk of stroke.

The Framingham Study, which began in 1948, is a long-term study of cardiovascular and other diseases and their risk factors. Participants are followed throughout their lives by physicians. The 832 men chosen among the Framingham participants were free of any cardiovascular disease, and were 45 through 65 years-old, when enrolled in a dietary assessment study between the years of 1966 to 1969.

During the dietary assessment, interviewers elicited information on the participants' previous 24-hour food intake. That information was kept on file, and the participants were monitored for the next 18 to 22 years for, among other things, any episodes of stroke.

During that follow-up period, there were 97 stroke-related incidents among the men. Twenty-four were categorized as transient ischemic attacks (stroke-like symptoms lasting less than 24 hours), and 73 were completed strokes.

Researches write there was a substantial decrease in stroke-risk among those who were found to consume higher quantities of fruits and vegetables. For each increment of three servings per day, there was a 22-percent decrease in the risk of all stroke. The average number of servings among the participants was 5.1. A serving size was defined as a half-cup.

Researchers questioned if those who ate larger amounts of fruits and vegetables had generally healthier habits and that perhaps the consumption of fruits and vegetables was incidental to, rather than the cause of, the stroke outcomes.

After they adjusted the data to test for this, looking at items such as cigarette smoking, obesity, and physical activity, the results were the same in most instances. Increased fruit and vegetable intake seemed to directly reduce the likelihood of stroke.

They also examined the effects of fruits separate from those of vegetables. The protection afforded from vegetables, however, appeared somewhat greater than that from fruits. While researchers did look at the types of vegetables participants ate, they write they cannot draw conclusions concerning specific varieties because of the small amount of each type consumed.

The researchers conclude: "Intake of fruits and vegetables appears to protect against the risk of stroke in men. In this study, the association was present for both ischemic and hemorrhagic strokes ... These results provide support to programs aimed at widespread increases in the consumption of fruits and vegetables. If successful, such programs may have beneficial effects on the incidence of stroke as well as other chronic diseases that constitute the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in Western societies."

Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

OWNER RELOCATING

SOUTHWICK CONTEMPORARY - with lots of glass & openness. Private setting with brook, 1.4 acres, 3 car garage & inground pool, located on quiet cul de sac street. **CALL 413-569-3985**



Arts

Donna Kendall To Be Featured Artist At Feb. 7th Meeting

The Agawam Community Artists will feature Donna Kendall at their next meeting, to be held February 7th at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam. The meeting is open to the public and is free of charge.

Donna Kendall specializes in wearable art of fine original design. Each piece is individually created on the highest quality fiber fabrics. Using a technique she adapted herself, Kendall enjoys creating "works of art you can wear." The quality fabric paint is completely machine washable and dryable.

After studying design and printmaking in Massachusetts and New Jersey, Kendall worked as a graphic designer for 10 years before starting her own design business specializing in wearable art.

"The design business allows me to develop my own designs with tremendous freedom," says Kendall, owner of Kendall Graphics in Belcher-town. "The flexibility to spend more time with my children and family is extremely important to me, too."

Her clothing is the finest quality natural fabric, and her designs are stunning. The Agawam Community Artists are happy to present this fine artist in our area. There will be a short business meeting prior to her demonstration.

Valentine's Cabaret At Red Door Theatre In Feeding Hills

Stage III will present its second annual VALENTINE'S CABARET at the Red Door Theatre, 152 So. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills on February 9th and 10th at 7:30 p.m.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" is a fun-filled sentimental production featuring romantic music, comedy, and a newly scripted one-act entitled "HOME MOVIES" by Steven Russo.

The music is a collage of songs from Broadway, Pop, and Country music centering on the Valentine theme of Love.

"HOME MOVIES" depicts the loving life of Carl and Norma who are now in their 70's. Although the play is about love, the presentation of the theme will surprise you.

"ONE ENCHANTED EVENING" features award-winning actors/singers Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora and is a cabaret with all the trimmings. Patrons are seated at candle-lit tables complete with complimentary bottle of non-alcoholic champagne, a chocolate heart, and even a silk rose.

Refreshments may be purchased from the snack bar or patrons may bring their own basket of goodies. Tables are set for groups of two to six. Tickets are \$20 per couple and reservations are a must.

Why not take your special someone to an evening not soon to be forgotten! For reservations, call 789-2026.

Operation Friendship Slates Roast Beef Dinner For Feb. 3rd

A roast beef dinner hosted by Operation Friendship of America will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, 21 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, with continuous servings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The cost for adults is \$7.50; \$4 for children under 12 years of age; and free for children under five years of age.

For reservations, call Kathy Rose at 786-0195 or Chris Mangano at 789-3128. If you reach an answering machine, please leave your name and number of reservations.



DONNA KENDALL will be the featured artist at the February 7th meeting of the Community Artists at The Captain Charles Leonard House.

6-Week Session For Playgroups Planned At Agawam Library

Beginning the week of March 4th, the Agawam Library offers a six-week session of playgroups for ages 18-34 months, storytimes for toddlers aged 2½ to 3½, and storytimes for preschoolers aged 3½ to 5 with and without younger siblings.

From now until February 12th, registration will be for newcomers and those who have not signed up for the January-February session.

Open registration for those who have participated begins on the 12th. Agawam and Feeding Hills families are invited to register by calling 789-1550 or stopping by at 750 Cooper Street.

Check our classified

AGAWAM PUBLIC MARKET

768 MAIN ST. 786-7476

PLAY YOUR MEGABUCKS HERE

Winning Lottery Tickets Cashed Daily

HOT DOUBLE CRISP DAY'S CATCH
★ FRIED CHICKEN ★ ★ FRESH SEAFOOD ★

We Accept VISA & MasterCard
... We Accept USDA Food Stamps ...

PRICES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 5TH — FEBRUARY 10TH

USDA CHOICE

Boneless Sirloin Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Boneless Spoon Roast	\$3.29 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$3.49 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$3.99 Lb.
T-Bone & Porterhouse Steak	\$3.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.29 Lb.
Split	\$1.49 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.
Zonin Italian Sausage (Hot Or Sweet)	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round (10 Lbs. Or More)	\$1.99 Lb.

WHOLESALE MEATS

Whole Boneless Top Sirloins	\$1.99 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast (10 Lbs. Or More)	\$1.09 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$4.49 Lb.
DELI	
Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Russer Honey Maple Ham	\$3.49 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$2.99 Lb.
Hudson Deluxe Turkey Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Margerita Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Margerita Slicing Pepperoni (Sandwich Style)	\$3.49 Lb.
S & R Provolone Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.

SEAFOOD

Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99 Lb.
-------------------------------	------------

PRODUCE

Seedless Grapes (Red & Green)	\$1.69 Lb.
California Navel Oranges (Jumbo Size)	49¢ Each
Large Slicing Tomatoes	69¢ Lb.
Maine Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag)	\$1.39

DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
Hood Skim Milk (Half Gallon)	\$1.09
Hood 1% Low Fat Milk (½ Gallon)	\$1.09

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY SPECIAL

Sliced Beef Liver	89¢ Lb.
-------------------------	---------

*** Jack's Scented Candles ***
(16 Oz. Jar) - \$9.99

Olde Town Bagel

Main Street, Agawam

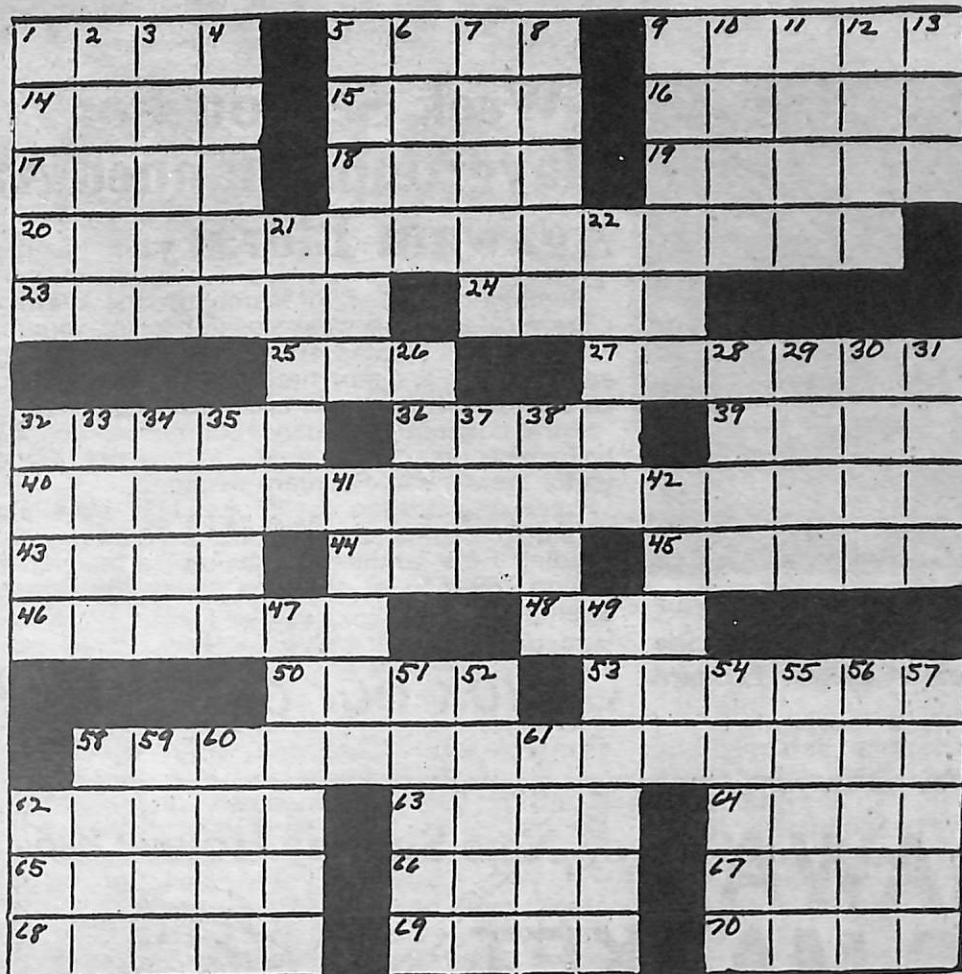
The
Only
Authentic
Cappuccino

Now Serving

Lata / Mochachino / Espresso



MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



H A K T H I R E D B B A B A R E
 O L E O E R O S E P O U R S A R U T
 P E N N Y W I S E P O U N D F O O L I S H
 E X O E S S E M R E D L I L L E
 M A T T I E D M I L L E
 M O T O R B O A T S C A D E T S
 S C A M S A R R E S T O N E R P A R
 A R K S N I T A G E R D E L E
 P O E E G G S O N T N T R A N I S
 A M O R E A O R T A A N D B E
 M I C E W O R K I E Y O U C A N G E T I T
 A S H E N E A S E D L E A S H
 K E A T S M E G S E D A T E R A E
 E A N S S O L O O M A R A L L
 D A G M O D S T I P P E R M A F I A
 E P O D E A R N I E S S P O R T
 A R A M S I C K A N T
 S E R A P E L B A H A R E E L L
 F O O T L O O S E A N D F A N C Y F R E E
 A R N E P A N E L E L I T E A O N E
 R E E D R E P C O R A L T S A R

ACROSS
 1 Sculler's tools
 5 Type of muffin
 9 Used 1A

14 Three-lash whip
 15 Eli's school
 16 Duck
 17 Part of T.A.E.

18 Sandusky's lake
 19 Awaits
 20 Fat and Skinny of films
 23 Jungle Queen of comics
 24 Ogles
 25 You another way
 27 German prisoner of war camp
 32 "House of Seven Gables" locale
 36 Ship deserters
 39 Sites
 40 "Pat and Mike" co-stars
 43 Year of our Lord (Lat.)
 44 Indian buzzard
 45 Desert watering holes
 46 Las Vegas casino worker
 48 Honeycomb item
 50 Da Vinci's Mona
 53 Threw with effort
 58 Broadway pairing of ten

62 Thing of the past
 63 Galleries
 64 "— plenty of nothin..."
 65 Director Lubitsch
 66 Kingly name in Norway
 67 Bob of the Senate
 68 Chesterfield or Mac's
 69 Refute
 70 Goddess of discord
DOWN
 1 Ring stones
 2 Muslim god
 3 Stage offering
 4 Gaze intently
 5 Addendum
 6 "— avis"
 7 True up
 8 In want
 9 Meal
 10 Atop
 11 Baton
 12 Whirlpool
 13 Plaines or Moines
 21 Foe
 22 German state
 26 Sea eagle
 28 Famous Dukedom
 29 Rawls or Costello
 30 Farmer's unit
 31 Cotton factories
 32 Town (Dutch)
 33 English composer
 34 Actress Turner
 35 E.P.A.'s concern (abbr.)
 37 Madison Ave. output
 38 Melt
 41 Roman hallways
 42 Diseases
 47 Puts into office
 49 "— load to carry"
 51 Hair piece
 52 Confuse
 54 Stage remark
 55 Partner of vim
 56 Virulent bacterium
 57 Fruits of the desert
 58 Audie Murphy for one
 59 Arm bone
 60 Fine spray
 61 Actor Harlow
 62 Part of R & R (abbr.)

Ambiance Wind Quintet To Perform At Ag. Public Library

The Agawam Cultural Council will present the Ambiance Wind Quintet as the "First Friday" performance for February. The program will be held on Friday, February 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. The performance will be held at the Agawam Public Library and is free and open to the public.

The Ambiance Wind Quintet is made up of five local musicians. Donna Kennedy of Agawam plays the flute and piccolo, Danette Bucci of Chicopee the oboe, Kathy Zisk of Somers, CT, the clarinet, Phil Fedora of West Springfield the bassoon, and Joan Cavanaugh of Holyoke the French horn.

The quintet was formed in 1992 and has performed in Agawam before. The quintet's repertoire includes marches, classical selections, and popular music. Some of the selections they will be performing on February 2nd will be Sousa's "Liberty Bell March," a medley of tunes from Bizet's opera "Carmen," a movement from Handel's "Water Music," and Henry Mancini's "Pink Panther."

Also, the audience will have a chance to sing along in an arrangement of vaudeville songs.

The Disney Film "Gordy" To Be Shown At Ag. Library

Agawam and Feeding Hills families are invited to the Agawam Public Library on Saturday, February 10th, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. for an afternoon at the movies.

The whole family will want to see the full-length Disney film "Gordy," rated G, on our big screen. Come and enjoy this heartwarming tale of a lovable talking pig in one big adventure after another as he looks for his family.

Bring your own sit-upons and we'll supply the snacks. Call 789-1550 or stop by the library at 750 Cooper Street to register.

Check our classified



GEORGE & GREEN REAL ESTATE CO., INC.

Commercial Investment • Residential • Relocation • Buyer Brokerage

770 Main Street, Agawam 789-3985

Other Offices In East Longmeadow And Westfield



Agawam Is Our Business!



FEEDING HILLS \$152,500
 NEW LISTING offers it all! Large 4 BR Raised Ranch w/central air & built in pool for summers and family room w/woodstove to chase away winter's chill.
 789-3985 Dorene Ayotte 786-2051



FEEDING HILLS \$77,500
 PRICE REDUCED! Cozy neighborhood home w/a great price. 5 RMS, 2 BRS, carport, garage, enclosed front porch, large fenced yard.
 789-3985 John Duggan 786-6281



FEEDING HILLS \$124,900
 WELL maintained one owner home! 6 RM, 3 BR, large ranch w/rec room, patio, carport, IG pool, beautiful grounds. Must see to appreciate. Price just reduced.
 789-3985 Skip Paige 732-7875



STAGE III presents its 2nd Annual CABARET



February 9 & 10 at 7:30 p.m.

LOVE SONGS
 COMEDY
 and
 A 1-ACT PLAY
 with
 LYLE PEARSONS
 &
 MARGIE SECORA

RED DOOR THEATRE
 152 S. Westfield St.
 Feeding Hills, MA

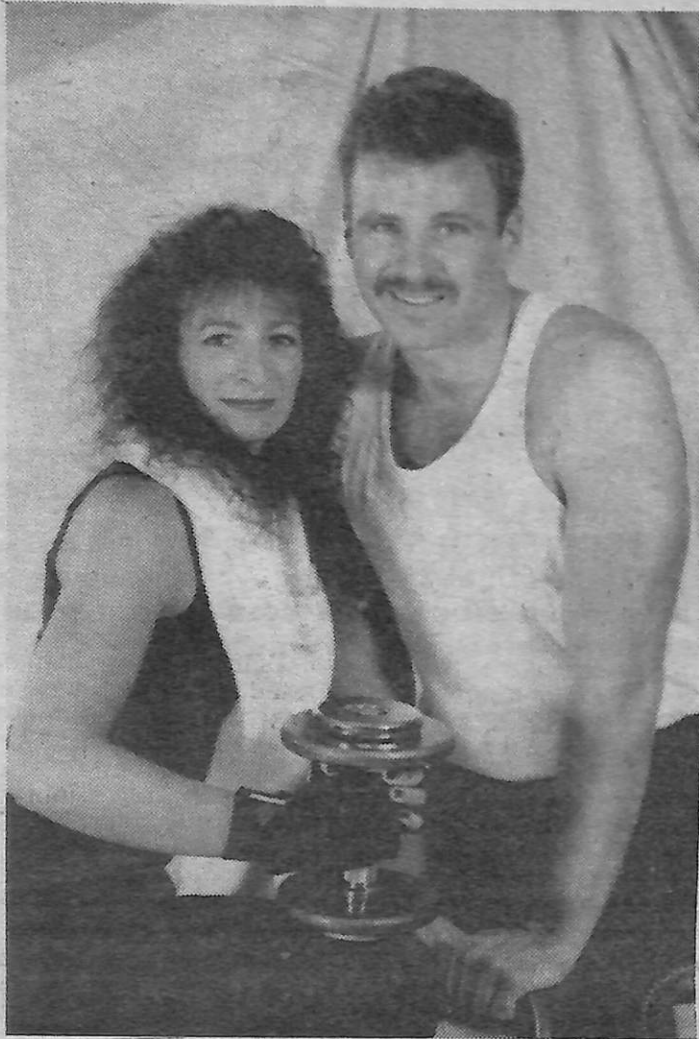
Candle-lit tables
 with
 A COMPLIMENTARY:
 Silk Rose
 Chocolate Heart
 Bottle of non-alcoholic
 CHAMPAGNE

For RESERVATIONS Call

789-2026

\$20 per couple

A NEW YEAR, A NEW YOU! FINAL WEEK FOR FREE ENROLLMENT!



JOIN NOW & SAVE THE ENTIRE \$198 ENROLLMENT FEE!

Celebrate 1996 by starting your New Year's resolution to shape up and lose a few pounds and you'll save money, too!

Fitness First Family Health & Fitness Center in Feeding Hills has everything you need, including a professional staff, to help you every step of the way!

A choice of Memberships are available to singles, couples, families, students, juniors and seniors!

Facilities include:

- Cybex, Nautilus & Free Weight Equipment!
- Rows of Treadmills, Bikes & Stairmasters!
- A Variety of Great Aerobic Workouts!
- Racquetball & Basketball Programs!
- Indoor Heated Swimming Pool & Spa!
- A Well Supervised Nursery Program!
- Wellness & Weight Loss Programs & More!



***Due to this month's weather, we've extended this offer.
This is the FINAL WEEK!!!***

*Fitness Evaluation and monthly dues vary depending on membership.



60 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-1460



Education

College-Bound Seniors At AHS Using Essays As Application Tool

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For most college-bound high school seniors, mid-winter brings a break from the fall's whirlwind of activity aimed toward finding the right college to invest four years of their lives, not to mention the daunting financial investment.

By now, all the applications have all been sent, but the transcripts and test scores give college admissions officers a one dimensional portrait of the applicants.

Teacher recommendations add another dimension to the emerging portrait, but many students feel their personal essays may be the one thing that makes them stand out from the thousands of applications pouring into admissions offices across the country.

AHS English teacher Lawrence O'Brien agrees. "Sometimes it's the deciding factor," O'Brien said. "All other factors being equal, the essay is becoming more and more important in the admissions offices."

For the last six years, O'Brien has been teaching a unit on writing successful college essays as a part of the curriculum for his advanced placement seniors.

Preparation Relieves Anxiety

Working with examples of successful college essays and with booklets offering tips on what admissions officers are looking for, O'Brien said his preparation helps take the anxiety out of the process for his students. "They know what the colleges are looking for," O'Brien said.

While some of the students found it difficult to write about themselves and to share their personal experiences, all agreed that the essay could make the difference in being offered admission to the college of their choice.

"It's important because it shows the person so you're not just a name," said Betsy Gervais.

According to Kelly Stoddard, the students learned to "keep it short and simple and not to brag about their grades."

"Mr. O'Brien told us not to just regurgitate what's on the application. The essay is supposed to give a third dimension—a more personal level than just the numbers," added Lisa Cassanelli.

Knowing that admissions officers read thousands of student essays, John Hill said, "I wanted to capture some attention. They get so many run-of-the-mill essays."

As he has for the last several years, O'Brien has submitted his students' essays to the regional students newspaper, *21st Century*, for possible publication.

"We're hoping to dominate the college essay page again," O'Brien said.



COLLEGE-BOUND AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS are using personal essays with their college applications to enhance their chances of being accepted. The students are in the class of faculty member Lawrence O'Brien. From left - Kelly Stoddard, Betsy Gervais, Jennifer Clarke, Lisa Cassanelli, and Jenn Kratovil. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Middle School PTO Board To Next Meet On February 5th

The next Agawam Middle School PTO Board meeting will be held Monday, February 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria.

There are a few remaining t-shirts and sweatshirts for anyone who missed out on the original order and would still like one. The tees are \$5 and the sweatshirts are \$13.

If you would like one, please call Ann Woodard at 786-1675 or send your money in to school in an envelope with your name, room, and size. We still have the following available:

TEES: one medium; one large; four extra large.
SWEATS: two large; two extra large.

Please continue to save your Campbell soup labels.

Please make an effort to sign up at Bank of Boston for school investment points. Should you

have any questions, contact Theresa Shea at 789-0651.

The Accelerated Reader Program will be Thursday, February 1st at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium. Paul Kaplan will present SONGS OF THE SEA in story and music.

The Middle School Ski Club is enjoying great success although encountering difficult weather conditions.

Ninety-two students are participating for a five-week program. We are looking for someone now to continue the program for next year. Please contact Jan Lapins (786-6806) or Karen Chmura (786-0419).

The Board voted to continue with O'Connor School Portraits for next year.

Check our classified pages every week

THE LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS S. LOCKE

- * REAL ESTATE CLOSINGS/CONSULTING
- * AUTO ACCIDENTS/PERSONAL INJURY/INSURANCE CLAIMS
- * SETTLEMENT OF ESTATES/WILLS/ELDERLY MATTERS
- * BUSINESS LAW/CORPORATE MATTERS
- * WORKER'S COMPENSATION

430 MAIN STREET
SUITE 100 - CENTRE BUILDING
AGAWAM, MA 01001

(413) 786-5400 * FAX (413) 789-7157

Family Eye Care

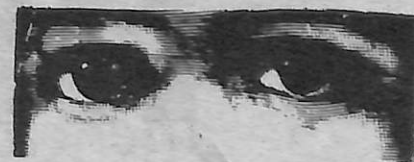
656 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills

789-2106

Dr. Richard Gallerani
Optometrist

Accepting:

Medicare
Health New England
U.S. Health Care
Mass. Health
HMO Blue
Aetna



Children's Vision / Contact Lenses



GIRL SCOUTS

THE GIRL SCOUTS

AS GREAT AS YOU WANT TO MAKE IT

In November, Robinson Park Brownie Troop 545 collected non-perishable items for the Open Pantry as a service project for our community.

In December, the girls made ornaments for the Giving Tree and special Christmas cards for their families.

In January, we went to Fitness First. Our Troop will toured the facility and got some exercise. We also talked about nutrition and taking care of your body.

Gary Parrotts visited our Troop and spoke about being an E.M.T. and Firefighter. We discussed first aid, 911, and what to do if someone needs help or in case of a fire.

The stars of our Troop are: Amanda Therrien, Natale Storozuk, Nicole Granger, Linnette Rivera, Tiffany Theriault, Kida Ejesi, Danielle Hctor, Samantha Fruwirth, Danielle Maynard, Jessica Shukes, and Brittany Parrott.

The following article was written in its entirety by Heather Albano and Mollie Ober for Phelps Brownie Troop 582.

Our first meeting we picked pumpkins. After we went to our co-leader's house. We made candy corn necklaces and painted our pumpkins and for snack we ate witch hat cookies.

Our second meeting we voted on a badge to do. We chose "Creative Composing." We wrote a poem about Girl Scouts and recited it to the elderly at Country Estates. Then we stayed and worked on a Christmas craft. It was really fun.

We also made Christmas ornaments for the Giving Tree. We brought them to Baystate West then went to Papa Gino's to have our Christmas party. Our Brownie leaders gave us each a Brownie storybook for a gift. They're really great!

We will be working hard for the rest of the year getting ready to fly-up to Juniors. We have already completed half of the requirements.

The girls in Junior Troop 547 have been busy working on several merit badges; "Art In The Home," "Girl Scouts In The USA," and "Making Hobbies."

They made some terrific skeleton decorations for Halloween, as well as pretty wreath candleholders for a fall table centerpiece.

We've created some cooking projects, as well, making some delicious apple crisp and chocolate covered pretzels that the girls shared with their families.

The Troop was involved in some of the worthwhile Holiday service projects by making cards for the children at the Shriners Hospital, ornaments for the Giving Tree, and wrapping Baseball cards for gifts.

Locals Attain Dean's List At Holyoke Community College

Toby Tamarkin, Holyoke Community College's Vice President of Academic Affairs, has announced the Dean's List for the 1995 fall semester.

Full-time students named to the Dean's List have completed at least 12 semester hours of courses and achieved at least a 3.2 quality point average.

Full-time students from Agawam are Tracey A. Blair, Lisa Clarkson, Michio Isogai, Irene E. Maklary, Jason G. Pannier, Kathryn M. Poulos, and Christopher Provost. Full-time students from Feeding Hills are Herman B. Hochreich, Sharol A. Menard, Claire S. O'Toole, Nicholas P. Rondinelli, and Karey J. Shameklis.

Part-time students named to the Dean's List have completed less than 12 semester hours of courses and achieved a 3.2 quality point average.

Part-time students from Agawam are Susan M. Blakeslee, Barbara D. Farrington, Donna Marie Grzelak, Maria Hardy, Kim L. Jacobs, Karen L. Kachinski, Jeffrey M. Lafrance, and Marguerite A. Sacco. Part-time students from Feeding Hills are Victoria A. Giguere, Michael L. Kowalewski, and Jennifer Pioggia.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week



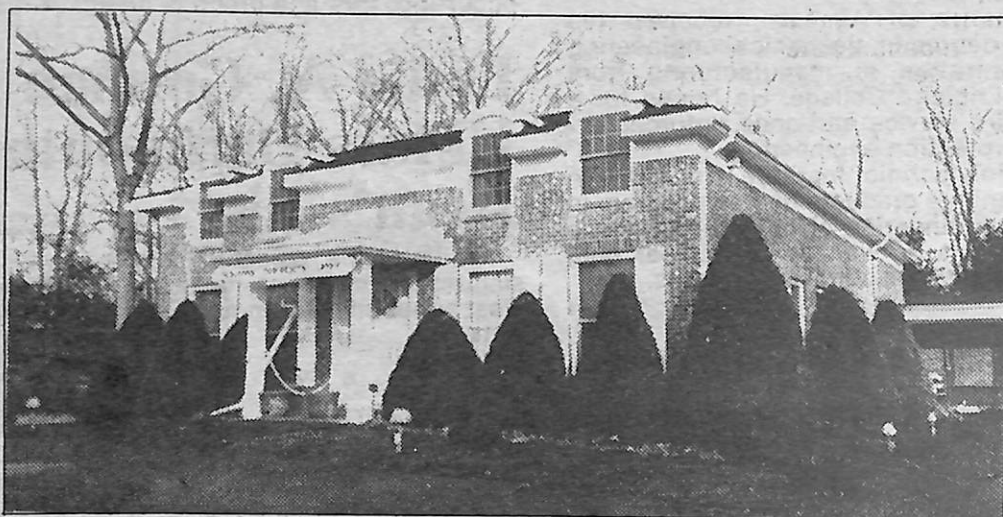
BROWNIE TROOP 582 at Phelps School pays a visit to Country Estates Nursing & Rehab Facility on Suffield Street.

Jill Robb Involved In WSC's "Campus Cares"



JILL ROBB (center) from Agawam, a student at Westfield State College, and WSC President Ronald L. Applbaum present donations to Linda Koss of New Beginnings Women's Shelter in Westfield as part of the "Campus Cares" Program at the college. Over \$1,200 was collected in goods and services for the shelter.

Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



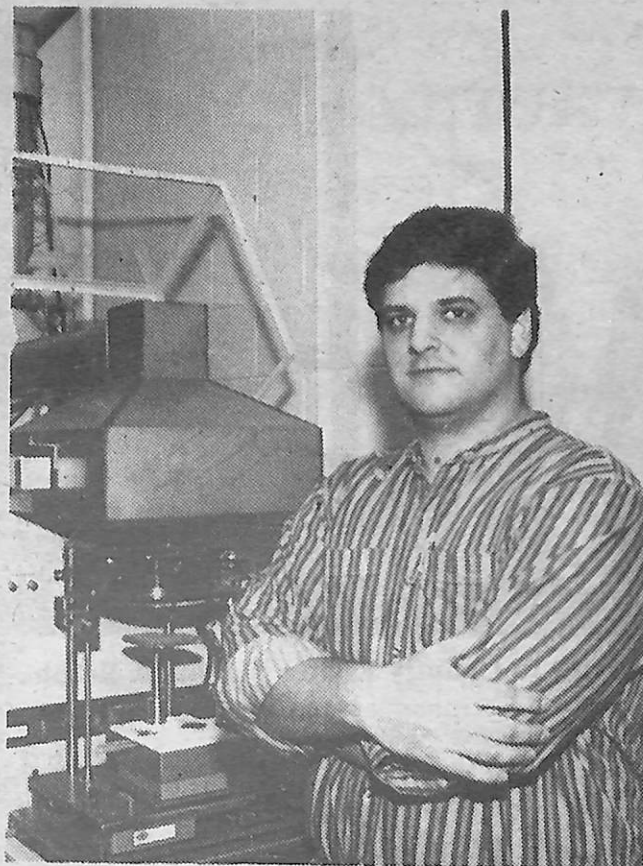
Schlaffer Chiropractic

- Complete Family Chiropractic Care
- Worker's Compensation, Auto Accident, City of Springfield and Western Mass. Preferred Plus, Health New England, Consolidated Health Plan, Connecticut And Massachusetts Blue Cross/Blue Shield, And Other Insurances Accepted.
- X-Ray Facility With Low Exposure Rare Earth System
- Emergencies Accepted
- Evenings And Saturday Appointments Available

192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

For An Appointment—Call 789-1369 Or 789-1073

Serving The Agawam Area For 15 Years



AGAWAM NATIVE Michael Wojcik, a graduate student at WPI, is doing his internship with the Boston Fire Dept.

Michael Wojcik Likes Being Intern With Boston Fire Dept.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute Fire Protection Engineering graduate student Michael Wojcik is someone who exemplifies the adage, "learning by doing."

Since last May, Wojcik has been a graduate intern with the Boston Fire Department helping to rewrite their fire protection code. "I consider it a privilege and a great opportunity to intern there," says Wojcik. "Working with Boston Fire Marshall Jay Fleming and Assistant Inspection Engineer Paul Donga (a 1995 WPI graduate) has been a great experience. And we're revising and updating the Boston Fire Prevention Code, something that has not been done since 1979."

"I'll be helping the city to revise their code to fit within state laws and state building codes," continues Wojcik. "I hope to have a draft ready by the end of June."

Boston Fire Commissioner/Chief Martin E. Pierce, Jr. notes that for many years the Boston Fire Department has maintained a relationship with Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Center for Firesafety Studies, and in each case the results have been excellent.

Wojcik, a native of Agawam, received his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration in manufacturing from Western New England College. He hopes for a career in the fire service and code enforcement sector of fire protection engineering.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1865, offers a unique graduate degree program in fire protection engineering at both the master's and doctoral levels as well as a five-year dual degree program for high school graduates.



AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Acting Director
AHS Guidance Dept.

Losing More Than Saving In Middle School Guidance

On January 18th, I paid a visit to the Middle School. My mission was three-fold. I wanted to meet with Tom Dacey at his other work site, and I wanted to talk to the administrators about the effects that the school is feeling due to the lack of a full-time guidance counselor. Also, I wanted to get a feel for the school so I would have a better understanding of its inner workings.

I entered the building and immediately noticed the well-kept surroundings. The floors literally sparkled, the walls were immaculate, and the lights were shining brightly. A welcoming and warm atmosphere clearly surrounded me. I entered the main office and was struck by its cheeriness and the smiles on those who were inside.

Mr. Zavarella greeted me and ushered me into his office. Mr. Conte joined us. Looking around, I thought how non-threatening and inviting the office must appear to parents and children. In the corner was a table and chairs, clearly intended for children's use. Listening to both administrators, it was evident how much ownership and pride they have in the school.

Mr. Zavarella gave me a quick history of the school from 1921 until the present. As far back as 1973, there were two full-time counselors at the school. Interestingly, as the school grew in its number of students, the guidance staff decreased! It went from two to 1½ to one to a part-time counselor who spends just two days in a building servicing 310 fifth graders and 350 sixth graders. Incredible!

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Mr. Dacey is at the Middle School. Where is the consistency? If a child has a problem, he has to put it on hold. If a parent calls, he/she is told to call back on the days that Mr. Dacey is present. The calls are not referred to him at the High School because he is busy playing catch-up there in order to service his 250 caseload of kids. The poor man is constantly changing hats!

I asked both administrators what a Middle School counselor does and if he is clearly needed. I mean, after all, he was cut less than half-time, so there must be a logical reason for that. Both administrators told me that everyone connected with the school was flabbergasted and incredulous when the cut occurred because Mr. Dacey is definitely an important entity to the workings of the school.

Fifth and sixth graders are definitely growing up faster. With social malaise, split families, drugs and alcohol, and other types of dysfunction occurring, this age group is clearly at-risk. Many

of the educational problems exist because of underlying emotional problems which cannot be ferreted out without a ready listener. This age group comprises pre-emerging adolescence with all the concomitant problems.

Mr. Zavarella poignantly pointed out that moving from the safety of K-4 surroundings to the Middle School is a huge and often frightening experience. With such a transitional experience, students need support. Yes, he and Mr. Conte acknowledged, there is a full-time home-school adjustment counselor, but he is constantly busy administering to 80 children with special needs. So the Middle School does need a full-time guidance counselor to deal with the issues that the rest of the student population certainly have and need to be addressed.

You know, it's amazing! We talk about early detection and early intervention. We send our children for check-ups to make sure their teeth and bodies are O.K., knowing that by being proactive we can prevent future harm. Yet, we do not follow through with this early detection of a problem educationally.

How much better to nip something in the bud in fifth or sixth grade than to let it fester and become almost impossible to deal with in the higher grades. By having a full-time counselor, we can uncover problems, prevent them from getting worse, and make the future brighter.

We owe it to our children to immerse them in an educational environment where all their emotional and educational needs can be met so that they can continue building on a firm foundation as they further their knowledge. Mr. Dacey has run a study skills program with videos and handouts that enables the children to increase their learning power. He does lessons on self-esteem, knowing that a good sense of self will enable a child to blossom.

Yet now his hands are tied and he is unable to fully deliver these very important messages. Who is there on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday to help a child cope with a loss, fear of failure, parental or peer problem? If we let the administrators deal with this, they how are they to deal effectively with their own duties? It's difficult to rob Peter to pay Paul and not lose something!

Yes, the position was cut to save, but in so doing our children have lost, and aren't the children, our future, with whom we should be most concerned? As parents, I welcome you to visit the Middle School, to view its classrooms and the wonderful learning that takes place inside its walls. I urge you to visit the library, whose staff has been cut, and to witness the 10,000 volumes and the Accelerated Reader Program that is available for every youngster. Reading is the staff of knowledge, and I understand that there was a possibility that the sole librarian might be let go.

Parents, please stop and ponder. Where are your priorities? If you don't speak up and insist that your children's needs be met, then you should not complain when their educational growth does not meet your standards.

As you can see, I was impressed with the Middle School. But I do realize that in order to have the school run even more efficiently, in order to enable it to fully meet the needs of our children, a full-time guidance counselor is needed.

Leslie A. Gorman On UMass-Dartmouth Dean's List

Feeding Hills resident Leslie A. Gorman, a Nursing major, has been named to the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Dean's List for the fall semester.

Anthony Greenway On Dean's List

Anthony Greenway of 65 Pheasant Run Circle, Feeding Hills, has been named to the Dean's List at Clark University in Worcester.

Greenway is a freshman majoring in psychology and is a 1995 graduate of St. Mary's High School in Westfield. He is the son of Liz Greenway.

THE X-CLUB By JOHN CONANT





KELLY TAUPIER

Kelly Taupier Named "Artist Of Month" At Agawam High

Kelly Taupier, a junior at Agawam High School enrolled in the Advanced Pottery class of Miss Frances Messina, was selected as High School Artist of the Month for December.

Besides art, her interests include literature and creative writing as well as her pets; the "gummy worm-consuming" dog and a cat. She is the granddaughter of local artist Miriam Taupier.

Kelly enjoys spending time with her close friends as well as listening to the music of "Mood Swing."

Art students from the Junior High selected by Andrew Kraus and Debbie Florek as Outstanding in the Month of December are Ryan Richardson and April Carreau from grade seven and Tony Andres from grade eight.

High School students of Geraldine Ann Schilling-Nordal whose work has been selected to be sent to the *Boston Globe* contest this year are Alex Adzhigirey, Viktor Adzhigirey, Tracy Butler, Dave Dello Russo, Tamzeena Hutchinson, Christina Januska, and Cheryl Lanier.

Local Residents On Fall Dean's List At Fitchburg State

President Michael P. Riccards of Fitchburg State College has announced Lynn A. Agrapides of Agawam and Lisa M. LaBelle of Feeding Hills were included on the Dean's List for the fall semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the semester if an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained, and the student is attending the college full time.

Fitchburg State College enrolls 6,000 day and evening students in 20 academic majors. The college was established in 1894.

Check our classified

*Check
our
classified*

Head Start Program Taking Applications For Agawam Site

The Greater Westfield Area Head Start is now accepting applications for the 1996-97 school year.

Head Start is a free developmental preschool program for three and four year-olds from low-income families from Westfield, West Springfield, Agawam, Southwick, and area hilltowns.

Head Start provides a four-hour program including a nutritious morning snack and hot lunch.

For more information or to obtain an application, please call 562-0586.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, February 5th: Pepperoni topped pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, chilled fruit cup, milk.

Tuesday, February 6th: Scrambled hamburger with gravy on whipped potato, seasoned green & wax beans, bread & butter, jello with topping or chilled pears, milk.

Wednesday, February 7th: Taco boat with cheese topping, steamed rice, niblet corn, "fresh Washington apple," milk.

Thursday, February 8th: Rotini with meat & spaghetti sauce, seasoned broccoli cuts, garlic bread & butter, white cake with hot fudge sauce or pineapple tidbits in syrup, milk.

Friday, February 9th: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & creamy dressing, ice cream cup, milk.

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch is \$1/per day or \$5/per week.

(NOTE: Please remember to purchase your tickets on Mondays for the week. Personal checks are accepted, payable to: **The Agawam School Lunch.**)

Snow Plowing

Sanding

Commercial—Residential

Also Firewood

George Farina

Call Us
Before The
Snow
Flies!



786-5658

"Where Quality Counts"

DYNAMIC
Transmissions, Inc.

337 Page Blvd., Springfield

- Domestic
- Automatic
- Foreign
- Standard

Call Charlie Copson of Feeding Hills, Proprietor

737-2041

FEBRUARY HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT GROUPS

AT NOBLE HOSPITAL

All programs meet in the hospital Auditorium unless noted.

Stroke Support Groups:

For Patients	Feb. 7, 5:30 p.m.
For Families	Feb. 14, 5:30 p.m.
For Both	Feb. 21, 5:30 p.m.

meets in the Bronson Dining Room

"The Regionalization of Trauma Care"

Feb. 7, 6:30 p.m.

Better Breather's Support Group

Feb. 12, 2 p.m.

Cancer Support Group

Feb. 15, 7 p.m.

Crohn's & Colitis Support Group

Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Feb. 21 & 28,
6:30 p.m.

meets in the Education Department

For more information on any program, or to register, please call the hospital at 568-2811, ext. 5577.



NOBLE HOSPITAL

It's getting better all the time.

115 W. Silver Street, Westfield, MA



Sports

Brownie Hoop Now Over .500 After Romp

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Someone should try to educate the Chicopee Comp fans on certain aspects of basketball—like defense. It was obvious, Tuesday night, that they couldn't recognize it as they watched Agawam High soundly thrashed their Colts, 64-36.

That's exactly what the Brownies did from the opening tipoff to the final buzzer, play defense—man defense of the "in your shirt," variety. The Brownies did it like they teach it in the roundball textbooks.

The Comp fans wanted their club to score. The Colts tried. But their shots, when they got them at all, were forced and hurried.

Agawam never trailed. They led 4-0 at the 14:06 mark, 8-0 at 12:16, and 10-0 with five minutes gone.

Comp's John Hale finally got his team on the board with a three after six minutes and 20 seconds had come off the clock. He got another three 20 seconds later. Then the Colts slipped back into their coma.

They had eight turnovers at the 7:26 mark. Most of them were the result of sloppy passes that the quick-handed Brownies had little trouble intercepting.

Joe Albano (26 points, including three threes, 2-2, six rebounds), coming off a 30-point performance against Longmeadow, was dominating the Agawam offense. Todd Jorgensen (seven points, including a three, three rebounds) and Chris Bitzas (three points, 1-2, one rebound) ran the Brownie running game with cool efficiency. And sixth man Brian Menard (eight points, six rebounds) was generally making life miserable for the not-so-frisky Colts.

The Name Of The Brownie Game...

But the name of the Brownie game was still defense. The two guys who anchored the effort were the big men, 6'5" junior forward Jay Malone (eight points, eight rebounds) and 6'5" senior center Dave Murphy (six points, 0-4, four rebounds, two blocks). They continually jammed the lanes whenever Comp attempted a drive. Their timely rebounds kicked off the Agawam running game. "We had to win this one," Murphy said. "We did well tonight finishing off our plays."

It was 29-12 with two minutes left. It was 35-19, Agawam, at halftime.

Agawam went 16-30 (53 percent) from the field and 0-2 from the stripe. Joe Albano had 16 first-half points. They had only five turnovers and pulled down 13 boards.

The Colts had glue factory numbers: 5-21 (23 percent) from the field, 6-10 (60 percent) from the line, and 16 turnovers. They yanked down nine rebounds.

Comp came out in a semi-press for the second half. Bitzas and Jorgensen, both fine ballhandlers, busted it up easily. Agawam was playing a little more half-court ball now, executing it in a methodical and intelligent fashion. But they were still featuring the 'D.'

During the warm-ups, Comp put on a slam dunk display, proving they could leap a little. During the game they were still leaping, only now they were doing it against people rather than air. "We were boxing them out. It doesn't matter how high you can jump when you get boxed," Malone said later. It was 43-25, Agawam, with 11:35 to go.

Chicopee Came "Unglued"...

Comp was coming unglued under the Brownie defensive pressure. From the 11:35 to the 8:10 mark (a period of over three minutes), they could manage only one point, on a free throw.

With a minute and a half left, the Brownies were up, 64-35. And the Colts were getting ready to head out to pasture.

The final again, Agawam 64, Comp 36.

The second half had the Brownies putting it up 29 times. They hit 13 for a 44 percent average. They went to the line six times and buried three. They committed nine turnovers and ripped down 22 rebounds.

Comp shot 6-18 (33 percent) from the floor and 5-10 at the line. Ten turnovers and only seven boards rounded out their evening.

At this writing, Agawam, on a two-game win streak, is now 7-6 and 2-1 in the Valley Wheel. Comp goes to 2-11 and 0-3 in the Wheel.

The Brownies' next game is Friday at Chicopee.

Agawam High Juggernaut Continues On The Mats

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

When you've won nine straight Western Mass. titles, two state crowns, and are the current defending state champion, everyone comes gunning for you. It's simply a fact of life for Coach Phil Tomkiel and his Agawam High School wrestling team.

Last Saturday, they hosted a dual meet at Kibbe gym. The guests were Bridgewater-Raynham High School, Brockton High School, and local rival Longmeadow High. All wanted a notch on their gun handles. Every one of them went away empty as the Brownies swept the meet, 3-0, and went to 10-0 in Western Mass. this year.

The first victim was Bridgewater-Raynham. The Trojans, coming in at 14-3, are a quality team. Earlier this year, they won the prestigious Marshfield Tournament.

The Brownies were not impressed, beating this beast from the East, 40-19.

There were some strong performances by several Agawam wrestlers in this one. Gritty Kevin McKay had a tough one in the 103's. He was down to Scott Halprin, 4-2, with 30 seconds left in the match. He was able to tie it at four on a reverse. Then in overtime, at the 1:30 mark, Kevin scored two points for a 6-4 win.

If the tournament had an MVP, most likely it would have been 112-pounder Justin Aldridge. Aldridge was ahead (8-0) in the second period when he flipped his man and got the pin. Aldridge would have three pins on the day.

Mike Pessalano, wrestling in the 119's, was leading 9-2 in the third when he recorded a pin.

Tri-captain Chris Chechile, who is about as tough as they come, was in control for the balance of his 125-pound contest. Chris won it in three, 7-2.

Locals Cruising

To this point, the Brownies were cruising. Then things got a bit tense as the Trojans ran off two straight wins. Bridgewater-Raynham's fine unbeaten sophomore, Andrew Fohman, beat Ryan Grealls in the 130's. Agawam's Eric Johnson lost 9-3 in the 135's.

The Brownies got back on track when Jason Jean pinned his man with a minute-and-a-half gone in the 140's.

Dan Dialessi couldn't get any breaks in his 145-pound match, losing 7-5 after coming back from a 5-1 deficit in the first period.

Bridgewater forfeited the 150's. They won in the 160's.

Matt Gordon, filling in for the injured Andrew Ingham, lost 12-4 in the 171's. Matt, who has a face injury, wears a white hockey mask like the one Jason sported in the Halloween movies. You'd think he'd scare opponents into a loss.

Jon Jacobsen shut out his opponent in the 189's. The kid never had a prayer.

The Brownies' Darrell Malachowski showed some fine defensive wrestling as he won, 2-1, in the 215's.

And heavyweight Derek Parker pinned his man with just under a minute gone in the second period. Derek had been leading 6-2 at the time.

Brockton was next. At one time, during the

1980's and early 1990's, they were a power in Massachusetts wrestling. They came into this one with a 7-9-2 record. Agawam handed them their 10th loss, 36-28.

McKay, pumped up as ever, had another tough match. But, as he did in his first match, he gutted it out. It was tied at two after two. He scored twice on a nice reverse with a minute left in the third. After that, he rode his opponent for the duration and grabbed the 4-2 win in the 103's.

Aldridge was on a roll. He got his second pin of the day in the 112's, as he totally out-wrestled Brockton's Adam Smalley.

Pessalano went into overtime in the 119's, locked in a 0-0 tie. He won it, 2-0, with a takedown.

Chechile, who was supposed to wrestle in the 125's, didn't. According to Assistant Coach Gary Geiger, they wanted to rest him for a big match against Longmeadow.

Brockton won two straight matches before Dave McCarthy took his man, 6-3, in the 145's.

Brockton won two more, in the 160- and 171-pound classes.

Too Close For Comfort

Then, the Brownies, realizing the score was too close for comfort, closed it out. Jacobsen overwhelmed his man. He was leading 5-0 in the first, when he got the pin with only a few seconds left in the period.

Malachowski also got a pin in the first period of the 215's.

Parker shut out his man (6-0) in the heavies.

Next up was Longmeadow. The Lancers were struggling along with a 5-6-1 record. A 68-12 Brownie victory helped them struggle a little more.

McKay got his third win of the day with a first period pin. At the time, he was leading his man, Longmeadow 103-pounder Mark Zimring, 5-0.

Aldridge, who should be nicknamed 'blitzkrieg,' came out for his 112 match against Steve Darling. He measured him for a moment, then drove the luckless Lancer across the mat and pinned him in 17 seconds. It was his third pin of the afternoon.

A big match in this one came in the 125's. Chechile needed a win to be seeded first in the Western Mass. tournament. His opponent was Lancer senior Seth Zimring.

Chechile was ready. He came out on offense and ended the first up 2-0. The Brownie senior turned up the heat in the second period. He was going for the pin with 20 seconds left. Zimring escaped. But Chris enjoyed a 7-0 lead going into the third period.

Chechile won it, 11-1. "This feels good," he said. "It's nice to know I'll have the top spot in the tournament." Then he spoke about the match. "I was on my game. I had control the whole way."

Ryan Grealls got a first period pin the 130's.

Kevin Hill did the same in the 135's.

And Jason Jean got his second pin and second win of the afternoon in the 140's. He didn't wrestle against Brockton.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 32...

Stress Relief Physical & Mental Conditioning Discipline Self Confidence

**BE THE BEST
YOU CAN BE IN '96!**

**HWANG'S
SCHOOL OF TAE KWON-DO**
The Art of Self Defense

Now accepting
new enrollment!
"Spectators Welcome"

UNLIMITED
TRAINING




FUN FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY

CLASSES DAILY

FAMILY
DISCOUNTS
AVAILABLE

MR. SHUGART
4th DEGREE BLACK BELT
USA TKD Team Manager
1989, 1990, 1992 & 1995
Over 28 yrs. teaching experience

680 SPRINGFIELD ST. AGAWAM (Across from Agawam Police) 786-4158



HOSKIN

RUG & TILE



16 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills • 786-8085
Mon.-Wed., 9-5; Thurs. & Fri., 9-8; Sat., 9-4

Located
In
Dunkin' Donuts
Plaza

Carpet Savings!

- 100% Ansonylon - Stocked In Both 12' & 15' Widths!
\$20.95 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.
- 100% Heavyweight Textured Nylon At Lowest Price Ever!
\$21.40 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.
- 100% Continuous Filament Nylon Beautiful Multi-Color Saxony Constructed For Years Of Durability
\$24.50 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.
- 100% Continuous Filament Nylon Available In Saxony Or Texture
\$17.25 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.

Berber Carpet Savings!

- Commercial Strength In Residential-Look. Choice Of 12' Or 15' Widths
\$18.95 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.
- Sculptured Berber With Elegant Pattern. 3 Separate Styles In 12' Or 15' Widths. All For
\$19.75 Sq. Yd. Includes Installation With 6 Lb. Rebond Pad.

**Tarkett Vinyl Floor Covering Month—
Silicone Wear Layer For Longer-Lasting
Shine. Come In To See Our In-Store
Savings (For Limited Time Only).**

Brand
New

Ceramic Tile Intros!

- Cerfogres 12" x 12" Granite-Look
2 Colors **\$2.95** Sq. Ft.
- Ibero 12" x 12" Marble-Look
Non-Skid Surface **\$2.95** Sq. Ft.
- Himalaya Series - Heavily Shaded
In Several Colors (13" x 13" Only)
\$4.25 Sq. Ft.

"Hundreds Of Tiles For You To View...
Domestic And Imported."



Beautiful Hardwood Flooring From LECLERC Hardwood Flooring

- All Prefinished With 4 Coats Of Ultravioletly Cured Polyurethane.
- 3/4" Solid Tongue And Groove Construction.

- * Red Oak Prestige Both **\$4.95** Sq. Ft.
2 1/4" Or 3 1/4" Widths
- * Maple Colonial Both **\$4.40** Sq. Ft.
20% Harder Than Oak
2 1/4" Or 3 1/4" Widths
- * New Intro ... Birtch Americana Both **\$4.25** Sq. Ft.
2 1/4" Or 3 1/4" Widths
- * Birtch Heritage Both **\$4.39** Sq. Ft.
2 1/4" or 3 1/4" Widths

90
DAYS
SAME
AS
CASH

AHS Boys Moving On Divisional Title In Skiing

In Alpine ski racing, there are no wins or losses, there are placements: first through ninth in the "B" division for the Agawam High School boys' ski team.

Well, there may be a slight change in that thought due to the fact that they placed first in their division last week by 15 seconds. January 25, 1996 may have been the day Agawam made its first major statement to Western Massachusetts ski racing.

With the Brownies' solid first place finish, they have captured sole possession of first in the division over Holyoke, Greenfield, and East Longmeadow. "There are two official ski races left to see who will capture the divisional crown, but we are going to focus only on our next event," according to Coach Olson.

This is what put the Brownies in this position. Why change a system that is working?

Ryan Progulski once again scampered through another solid run with a time of 39.19, placing him once again in the top two of the "B" division. Ben Weld made his point clear in the league also, with a fifth place in the division with a time of 39.26.

Andy Markowski proved once again to be strong in alpine skiing where you need to be consistent. He motored across the line with his eighth place finish of 41.54.

Kevin Perreault rounded out the top four team times for the Brownies with a 10th place time of 43.26. The consistency of the program is its strength. Mike Savioli completed his time of 43.76, placing just out of the top 10. According to Coach Olson, "The goals are limitless with a team that works with the intensity of this program!"

Steve Charest found himself fighting the elements with his time of 50.92. The course deteriorated quickly due to the rain that fell earlier in the week. Dan Viens and Mike Defillipi completed the varsity order and fell victim to the icy conditions at Berkshire East.

The junior varsity once again is proving their strength in the Alpine program. On January 25th, the giant slalom race found the Brownies continuing their mission to improve times.

B.J. Cortis led the pack with a giant slalom time of 29.11, followed by freshman Rob Santanello's time of 31.85. Ricky Haglund and Daryl St. Laurent exploded down the hill to complete the run with a time of 33.51 and 43.46, respectively.

According to the coach, "This has been a season of many firsts for the Agawam program and will continue to be as exciting as we continue our quest to qualify for the state meet."

Brownie Girls Get Big First Place On The Slopes

The Agawam High School girls' ski team prepared extensively for the giant slalom race on Thursday, January 25th, and it paid off.

The ladies finished first in division as a team, and their top time finished first in the division as an individual. The top time for the team was by Jody Bulat, who finished with a very strong time of 28.48.

The remaining times for the team were as follows: Kelly Grover, 30.04; Jill Pavelcsyk, 33.97; Jen Quigley, 33.98; Gina Markowski, 34.89; Meagan Moriarty, 35.11; Angela Tassinari, 35.47; and Bridget Blum, 36.44.

The junior varsity team turned in some extremely good times this week, led by Jen Thibodeau with a hot time of 33.41, followed by Beckie Muttl, 34.05; Almee Devall, 34.50; and Jessica Ferris, 36.04.

According to Coach Graveline, the junior varsity times are even more meaningful when you consider they have to ski after all the varsity skiers have been through the course. This is to say that the earlier skiers have a better course to go through, therefore making a fast time late even more of an accomplishment.

Two girls broke into the top 10 again this week, Kelly Grover and Jody Bulat. This is the fifth time for Kelly and the third time for Jody. Each girl has made the top 10 each time she has raced this year.

The team is now two points out of first place overall, with two races to go. They are easily within reach of first place.

Things will be exciting right down to the wire, according to Coach Graveline.

Check our classified

Tri-Parish Bowlers Vying For Top Spot In Monday League

St. Anselm (20 wins) continues to lead Round Two of the Monday night Tri-Parish Bowling League at the Agawam Bowl, but second place Boston College (19 wins), third place St. Louis (18 wins), and fourth place Catholic University (18 wins) are putting the pressure on.

In the matches on Monday, January 29th, St. A's faced St. Louis in one of the key matches of the week. St. A's winners were leadoff LOU NAPOLITAN (285, 83.22 in Men's C) and third roller YVONNE CHARTIER (325, 104.13 in Women's AA). St. Lou winners were second roller KIM LACROIX (309, 92.10 in Women's B) and Captain GLEN ADAMS, a 320-312 upset winner over "Luscious" LOU MULDER.

Mr. Adams is first in Men's AA at 107.9 and "Luscious" Lou is second overall in the league at 110.30, just inches away from the top dog's spot held by his brother, "Jolly" OLLIE MULDER (110.47).

Boston College had a pretty solid night vs. eighth place Fordham (9 wins). BC winners were leadoff DAVE ALDRICH (286, 86.34 in Men's C), STELLA BARBIERI (280-274 over CORI NAPOLITAN; Stella is at 87.40 in Women's B), and third roller LARRY FORTIER (290, 95.27 in Men's A). The only winner for Fordham was the league's top gun, "Jolly" OLLIE MULDER. He defeated "Jungle" JIM MCCORMICK, 343-300. "Jungle" Jim just didn't have the firepower on this night to challenge "Jolly" Ollie. "Jungle" is at 103.36 in Men's AA.

In the next match, Catholic University faced fifth place Notre Dame (16 wins). CU winners were TAMMY VOGEL (245, 75.35 in Women's C), MARY THOMAS (290, leader in Women's A at 98.38), and third roller TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (321, 102.25 in Men's AA). The only winner for ND was Captain FLO ROCHFORD, the current queen of women's rolling in the league (337, 107.14). Flo defeated CU Captain BILL GRIFFIN (313, 100.6 in Men's AA).

Last place Holy Cross (8 wins) and seventh place St. Michael (10½ wins) hooked up in the next match. St. Mike's had a clean sweep in this one. Winners were leadoff MAYBETH "Miss Consistent" COUGHLIN (286, 91.46 in Women's A), VI MASSOIA (300, 92.36 in Women's A), "Sweet" LOU MASSOIA (316), and anchorman JERRY ALLEN, a 320-306 winner over famous HC Captain DEBBIE POIRIER (105.43 in Open Class).

Sixth place St. Mary's (12½ wins) had a bye this week. Team scores are as follows: RITA SCOTT (232), VENETTA SNYDER (256), FRANKIE CEROVICZ (277), and JOHN LONCRINI (322).

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week
ADVERTISER NEWS
Subscribe today!!!

Sacred Heart AA Plans Feb. 8th Meeting On "Designated Pitcher"

Sacred Heart Athletic Association recently announced plans for the formation of a new "Designated Pitcher League." An informational meeting will be conducted on Thursday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Center.

Newly elected SHAA President Brian Rheault emphasizes that this league will be in addition to all other existing SHAA leagues and that parents have the option of where to place their child.

In a designated pitcher league, the game is played exactly the same except that a pitching machine is used as the game's pitcher.

Rheault says that children who are eight years-old by June 1, 1996 are eligible to play in the designated pitcher league, but to remember, "There is age flexibility."

"This type of league offers a unique opportunity to many players and is only available through the SHAA. I think parents will be surprised at the overall benefits of the league," concluded Rheault.

(PUBLISHER'S NOTE: In last week's edition of *The AAN*, the date for the aforementioned informational meeting regarding SHAA's "Designated Pitcher League" was inadvertently printed as Friday, February 9th.)

AHS Ski Team Parents' Assoc. To Sponsor Dance Party

The Agawam High School Ski Team Parents' Association will sponsor a dance party on Saturday, February 10, 1996, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Polish Club in Feeding Hills.

Tickets will be sold at the door at the cost of \$5 per person. Live entertainment will be provided by Agawam's own Donnie Progulski and his band.

Please bring your own snacks and desserts. Please come out and support this worthy cause.

WRESTLING - from Page 30...

Longmeadow senior Mike LaBroad pinned McCarthy in the 145's with 40 seconds to go in the second period.

A Commanding Lead

Jeff Blows blew out the Lancers' Ryan Jennings 15-1 in the 152's. Agawam now led the match, 44-6.

Agawam's John Herman also rung up a pin with 1:07 left in the third period of the 160's.

Gordon was pinned for the second time in the meet by Eli Zimmer, in the 171's.

Jacobsen, showing his state champion form, grimly stalked Longmeadow's Brian Wezowicz for a little more than a period and a half. Then, leading 8-0, pinned the Lancer with 1:23 to go in the second.

Malachowski was just took quick, strong, and patient for Longmeadow's Brian Shapiro. Darrell got his second pin and third win of the afternoon with 23 seconds left in the third period.

Longmeadow had had enough. They forfeited the heavyweight match.

Agawam's record is now 10-0.




Pounce On This Great Opportunity!

Register to win a plush, lovable "Wild About You" tiger. He stands over 2 feet tall and he'll capture your Valentine's heart.

Surprise!

838 Suffield St., Agawam Rte. 75 at Southgate Plaza
Phone 786-2407

No purchase necessary. Complete rules in store.



CHANGING SPORTS - from Page 1...

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) spells it out. "A girl may play on the boys' team if that sport is not offered in the school for the girl, and a boy may play on a girls' team if that sport is not offered in the school for the boy."

A Fact Of Life

That fact is a fact of life these days. Boys are included in what were traditionally girls' sports. And girls participate in what used to be all male athletic events.

Right now, the most notable examples are field hockey, ice hockey, and swimming. But we've all heard the stories of young women around the country trying out, and in some cases, making boys' football and baseball teams.

This trend has a good foothold in Western Massachusetts. But is it a good trend?

Agawam High School Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney notes, "In this case, if we have equal opportunity for everyone, are we diminishing the best opportunities for both genders?"

Boys, because of their physical and psychological make-up, are usually bigger, faster, stronger, and more aggressive than girls. That reality in itself seems to highlight Ms. McSweeney's statement. A few tall and raw boned boys on a field hockey team would obviously take spots on the club away from deserving girls who just couldn't match up with them.

The Agawam High girls' field hockey team has no boys on its roster. But they have played many teams around the area that have male players.

Cindy Grieve, who is stepping down as coach of the team after 10 years at the helm, says, "In some ways, I feel having boys on a field hockey team can be a little unfair." She noted that during her career, she could have gone out and actively recruited boys (especially the hockey players) for her team.

"All I would have had to do was tell them that field hockey is a great way to get in shape and polish their stick handling skills." She added that she never even thought seriously about doing something like that.

"Besides," she laughed, "I couldn't ask a guy to wear a skirt."

Never Intimidated

She noted that none of her girls were ever intimidated when they had to face boys. "(Team member) Melissa Fleming, especially, would get really psyched up when she knew some were going to be on the other team. I think maybe all the girls did to varying degrees. They wanted everyone to know they could compete with the guys."

This year, the Brownies went to the Western Mass. field hockey tournament. They lost to Northampton in the first round. Hamp had three boys on its team.

Sue Pellegrinelli is the coach of the Southwick High School field hockey team. They were this year's Western Mass. champions. They lost to Walpole 2-1 in the state finals. Walpole didn't have any boys on its roster.

Ms. Pellegrinelli has two boys on her team, the Tower brothers - Matt and Corey. There is no doubt that both of them contributed to her team's success this season.

She has this read on boys participating in girls' sports. "The MIAA says we can do it. I have no problem with it."



SOUTHWICK HIGH FIELD HOCKEY
Coach Sue Pellegrinelli with the Tower brothers, Matt and Corey.

She added, "Boys and girls have different styles. The girls have a lot more finesse in this sport. The boys come right at you. It makes things interesting."

One thing that always comes up when talking about mixed gender competition is how the athletes get along. "The girls accept them," Ms. Pellegrinelli said. "They have a great relationship with them. And they have the right to play. That helps in their acceptance into this sport."

What about the other side of the coin, girls competing in sports almost completely dominated by boys?

It is rare around here. But it happens. Take hockey, for example. It elevates the word 'macho' to new heights. Girls' teams are almost nonexistent at the high school level. So, some join the boys' teams.

Agawam has a young lady on their hockey team. She's sophomore forward Amy Mastrolanni. "This is my second year," she said. "Last year, I'm not sure the boys really accepted me. But now, I

think they do."

Amy, who also plays soccer and softball for the Brownies, says she's comfortable playing hockey. "I get to skate, which is something I love. And it's a great experience."

She also notes that she gets little special treatment, which is fine with her. "Oh, maybe sometimes the coach will ask me if I'm okay after I get hit really hard. That's about it."

And she does take her share of the lumps. In a game earlier this year against Cathedral, she was chasing the puck and received a major league check. Amy went hard into the boards. But she was still fighting for the puck, even as she was going down.

The Panther who did the dirty deed was asked back on the bench if he realized she was a girl. He seemed surprised. "She is? I didn't know that," he said.

When Amy heard what he'd said, she laughed. "They know who the girls are, even with all the equipment and a helmet on. They can see our faces." She does feel that the boys put a little extra mustard on the checks when the target is a girl. "I can take it," she says.

Better Off With Their Own Gender

Her coach is Fran Pycko. He feels that while girls have the right to play on boys' teams, they would be better off with their own squads in their own gender. He also thinks that boys should not play field hockey with the girls.

"I will say this about Amy. She is one of the most dedicated people on this team. She hasn't missed a practice in two years with us," the coach noted.

Many schools in Western Massachusetts have mixed gender swimming teams. They compete against each other on a regular basis. Neither AHS girls' Coach Lynn Modzelesky nor boys' coach Dave Smith seemed to have a problem with the way the boys vs. girls competition is set up in their sport.

However, just about everyone we talked to felt schools should have teams in every sport for both boys and girls. And if that wasn't possible, at least they could have club teams.

Unfortunately, anyone who has gone over the area high school budgets knows that, in some cases, they are lucky to have the number of interscholastic sports they carry right now. Adding more venues would seem to be little more than an ambitious dream at this point.

Mixed gender competition is likely to increase as time goes on. And the positives just might outweigh the negative, if they haven't already.

The girls will most likely continue to take their games to higher levels (to match up with what the boys bring to the table). The boys just might gain some more respect for the girls when they find out what was once separate can, in some instances, be equal.

6-Week Soccer Clinic To Start Feb. 9th

A six-week soccer skills clinic for boys and girls will begin on Friday, February 9th, at the National Guard Armory on Maynard Street, Feeding Hills.

The clinic will again be conducted by Agawam High varsity soccer Coach Dwight Northrup for six consecutive Friday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For more information, please call Dwight Northrup at 734-3926.

NO ONE covers all the hometown sports every week like us - AAN!!! Follow Sports Editor Dave Rollins every week!!!

Check
our
classified

ALAN L. FERRIGNO

Attorney at Law
546 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-9454

- Litigation
- Employment Discrimination
- Wrongful Discharge
- Personal Injury
- Estate/Medicaid Planning
- Criminal Defense

Over 20 years professional experience

**Shift to the people
you can trust to put
you back in motion.**



Joseph V. Slaimen

Joseph S. Slaimen

Of Agawam

Serving This Area For Over 30 Years

- Rebuilders of automatic and standard transmissions
- Cars, trucks (light & heavy duty)
- All makes worldwide, foreign & domestic
- Free road test - all work guaranteed
- Allison truck transmission specialists

ATC Transmissions

811 Union Street
West Springfield, MA

734-9351

"Automatically the best!"

Agawam High Swimmers Stage Lively Meet Vs. West Springfield

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Even when you mix it with water, an athletic event between Agawam High and West Springfield can't be diluted. Last Friday afternoon, the Terriers came calling for a dual meet (boys and girls) down at the Junior High School.

The Terriers won both ends of the meet, 86-62 on the boys' side and 85-81 in the girls' competition. But the Brownies were game all the way. The girls even had a chance to win their battle.

There are 12 events in a high school swim meet (11 in this one because the diving board was broken).

The girls went first in each event. West Side won the 200 medley relay over a Brownie team of Rachel Niemiec, Danielle DeForge, Kristine Modzelesky, and Kelly Robinson.

Rachel Niemiec finished second in the 200 freestyle. She started fast, but got a little tired on the sprint lap.

The 200 medley, which consists of four different strokes, was a nailbiter. West Side's Kristin Conlin won it. The Brownies' Bridget Donovan made it a great race all the way, coming in second by only the length of a hand.

Agawam's Kristine Modzelesky won what is probably the swimming equivalent of the 100 yard dash - the 50 freestyle.

The Brownies would have two straight wins after that. Eileen Daly ran away with the 100 fly. Agawam's Alicyn Siano was second. Then Modzelesky dominated the 100 freestyle, as they got on a roll.

The marathon 500 freestyle saw Agawam's Donovan put on a valiant effort, but a good kick on the gun lap by Kristie Webster clinched it for the Terriers. Donovan finished second.

At this point, Agawam trailed 56-33. But they were still within striking distance.

A Wild And Woolly Swim Meet

Niemiec, Robinson, Megumi Isogai, and Modzelesky won the 200 free relay. Suddenly, the Brownies were only down 62-61. This was turning into a wild and woolly swim meet.

It got wilder as the Brownie swimming faithful saw Niemiec and Robinson finish first and second, respectively, in the 100 backstroke. Agawam enjoyed its first lead of the afternoon, 71-65.

DeForge managed a second in the 100 yard breaststroke.

It came down to the 400 yard freestyle relay. Donovan, Siano, Daley, and Isogai had a chance, but they fell short. But it was exciting. The Terriers grabbed their first win the season against eight losses. The Brownie girls fell to 2-8.

The boys' meet wasn't as exciting. But they had some outstanding individual performances.

The boys' team has a problem. You could stick them all in an average closet, throw in a water balloon, and you probably wouldn't hit anybody. They're competitive. The numbers just aren't there.

They started off on the right flipper. Steve Bennett, Brandon Kilrain, Mike Robinson, and anchor Keith Paro won the 200 medley relay.

Jonathan David placed second in the 200 freestyle. Robinson took third.

Numbers Cause A Problem

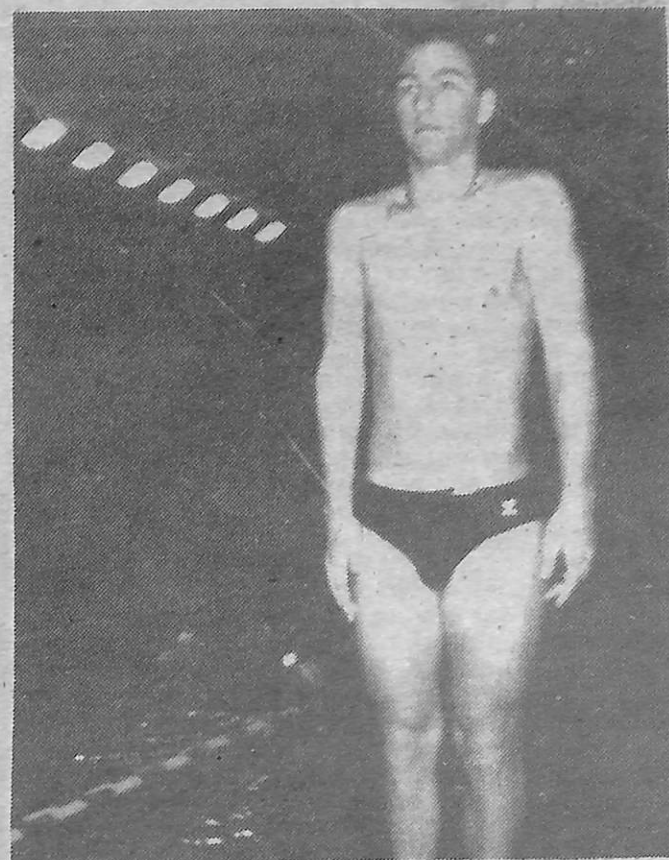
Only one Brownie, Kilrain, was entered in the 200 individual medley. He won it with a good kick on his crawl lap. But numbers, or lack of them, hurt. Despite taking two firsts, a second, and a third in the first three events, Agawam trailed 21-19.

Robinson won the 50 yard freestyle.

Agawam was a distant third in the 100 yard fly.

West Side won the 100 yard free. Roberts took third for the Brownies, who now found themselves down 46-38.

The 500 yard freestyle saw a remarkable performance by the Brownies' Mike Robinson. He was the only Agawam entry against two Terriers. Usually swimmers choose the crawl stroke in this one. Mike went with the butterfly - probably the most tiring stroke in swimming and just ran away



AGAWAM HIGH DIVER Keith Paro is one of the best in Western Mass. this year.

with the race, winning by a full lap over the crawling competition. His time was 6:12:31. That's a long time to be doing the fly.

West Side won the 200 yard freestyle relay to go up 60-50.

The Brownies managed one more win (Kilrain in the 100 breast) over the final three events. The numbers just weren't with them.

They did have some personal best times, though. Keith Paro swam 25:07 in the 50 freestyle. Keith specializes in diving. "Not bad for a diver," he smiled. Jonathan David had one of his own, 2:10:60 in the 200 free.

"Most of my guys swam well," Brownie boys' swimming Coach Dave Smith commented. "Mike Robinson, Keith, and Brandon Kilrain showed me some positive things."

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL
MAY IS NATIONAL FITNESS MONTH
BUT DON'T WAIT UNTIL THEN...
START NOW AND BE IN SHAPE BY MAY!



NEW FOR '96

- Completely Refurbished Pool & Jacuzzi Area
 - Convenient Aquatic Classes Morning & Evening
 - Cardiovascular Classes Every Hour
- AND**
- More Treadmills & Equipment**

LIMITED TIME OFFER!



EXCLUSIVE WOMEN'S FITNESS CENTER

NATIONAL FITNESS MONTH
Early Bird Special
12 MONTH MEMBERSHIP
ONLY \$169*

*I.D. & FIRST ORIENTATION NOT INCLUDED

65 SPRINGFIELD ST. • AGAWAM, MA • 789-1515

THINK SPRING SALE!

Early Bird
Specials

Sale Ends
Friday, Feb. 9th



5,000 Sq. Ft.

Scott's \$12.99

Super Turf Builder Plus Halts®

- Prevents those awful grassy weeds of summer before they start ...and super-feeds your lawn!
- Contains the strongest crabgrass, foxtail, and spurge preventer you can buy



5,000 Sq. Ft.

Scott's \$9.99 Ea.

Moss Control Granules

- Fast, thorough moss control without fertilizer application
- Contains iron to turn lawn deep green without excess growth



Mitch's GARDENS
LAWN & GARDEN! FLORIST! GREENHOUSE!
1265 Suffield Street, Rt. 75 Agawam Tel. 413-789-2400
MON. SAT. 9 to 6, SUN 10 to 5
Gift Certificates Available

Foliage Sale

Decorate Home/Office
Large Assortment

3' To 4'
Tall

\$8.99 Ea.

Showplace Potting Soil

\$3.99 34 Qt.



Peat Moss

Large Bale

\$6.99 Ea.



Agawam AA Basketball Standings

BOYS' 10-12

AMERICAN DIVISION

Corner Deli	W L
Fran's Restaurant	4 0
Valenti's Restaurant	4 0
Briggs & Starr Ins.	2 2
E.B.'s Specialty Restaurant	1 4
	0 4

NATIONAL DIVISION

JMC Graphics	W L
Movie Mart	4 0
Auth Fuels	3 1
Provin Mt. Farms	1 3
Agawam Opticians	1 3
	0 4

BOYS' 13-15

Westfield Savings Bank	W L
Agawam Auto Sales	4 0
Provin Mt. Farms	3 1
JMC Graphics	3 1
Polish Club	1 3
Fran's Restaurant	1 3
	0 4

Agawam Babe Ruth Sign-Ups Slated For February 3rd & 10th

Sign-ups will be held February 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and on February 10th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for all those interested in playing baseball in the 1996 season of the Agawam Babe Ruth League. The location for sign-ups is the Faolin Peirce Room, which is located in the rear of the Agawam Police Station on Springfield Street.

The fee for signing up is \$70 per player. Those who played in the league last year must still sign up again. The league is open to all players who turn 13 on or before August 1, 1996, and 16 after August 1, 1996.

For questions or conflicts concerning the above schedule, please contact Bill Walsh at 786-7701 or John DeBonville at 786-3588.

*For all the local
news, you turn our
pages every week*

AAA Piranhas Swimmers Cruise On

The Agawam AA Piranhas swim team won against the West Springfield team by a score of 471-245 on January 20, 1996 at the Agawam Junior High School. The results included:

Girls 8 & under:

The team of Jessica Lalli, Tammy Gorman, Johannah Kos, and Leeann Morytko placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay; the team of Julie Gorman, Rebecca Lewin, Sarah Roos, and Julie Wills placed second; and the team of Megan Lalli, Caitlin Hurley, Sarah Long, and Katelyn Morytko placed third.

The team of Leeann Morytko, Johannah Kos, Tammy Gorman, and Jessica Lalli placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

Johannah Kos, first in 100-yard individual medley; Julie Gorman, first, and Sarah Roos, third in 25-yard freestyle; Tammy Gorman, first in 25-yard butterfly; Julie Wills, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jessica Lalli, first, and Rebecca Lewin, third in 25-yard backstroke; Leeann Morytko, third in 25-yard breaststroke.

Boys 8 & under:

The team of Erik Deliefde, Jeffrey Lagasse, Shaun Bruso, and Benjamin Bruso placed first in the 100-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Erik Deliefde, Benjamin Bruso, Jeffrey Lagasse, and James Lewin placed first in the 100-yard medley relay.

Benjamin Bruso, first in 100-yard individual medley; Shaun Bruso, first, and Matthew Weir, second in 25-yard freestyle; Jeffrey Lagasse, first in 25-yard butterfly; Erik Deliefde, first, and Matthew Weir, third in 50-yard freestyle; James Lewin, first, and Adam Deliefde, third in 25-yard backstroke; James Lewin, first, and Shaun Bruso, third in 25-yard breaststroke.

Girls 9-10:

The team of Bethany Reid, Angela Vinton, Meagan Sassen, and Leigh Stepanian placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay; and the team of Erin Milillo, Kristyn Ward, Selema Sekkal, and Irena Klimczak placed second.

The team of Brittany Theriaque, Bethany Reid, Jillian Kos, and Katie Gorman placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Bethany Reid, third in 100-yard individual medley; Brittany Theriaque, first, Leigh Stepanian, second, and Kristyn Ward, third in 50-yard freestyle; Jillian Kos, first, and Angela Vinton, third in 50-yard butterfly; Katie Gorman, third in 100-yard freestyle; Brittany Theriaque, first, Erin Milillo, second, and Angela Vinton, third in 50-yard backstroke; Jillian Kos, first in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 9-10:

The team of Daniel Adamski, Tom Gorman, Paul Lagasse, and Michael Lalli placed first in the 200-yard medley relay.

Paul Lagasse, first, and Tom Gorman, second in 100-yard individual medley; Daniel Adamski, first in 50-yard freestyle; Paul Lagasse, first in 50-yard butterfly; Daniel Adamski, first in 100-yard

freestyle; Michael Lalli, first in 50-yard backstroke; Joseph McGeoghan, second, and Anthony Rueli, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Girls 11-12:

The team of Christina O'Brien, Christina Climo, Rebecca Morytko, and Hilary Golas placed first in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

The team of Amanda Boissonnea, Heather Scarlett, Kyleigh Egan, and Lisa Niedziela placed second in the 200-yard medley relay; and the team of Rebecca Morytko, Ashley King, Christina Climo, and Melissa King place third.

Christina O'Brien, first in 200-yard individual medley; Heather Scarlett, third in 200-yard freestyle; Amanda Boissonnea, second, and Rebecca Morytko, third in 50-yard freestyle; Kyleigh Egan, first in 50-yard butterfly; Hilary Golas, first in 100-yard freestyle; Christina O'Brien, first, and Amanda Boissonnea, second in 50-yard backstroke; Hilary Golas, second, and Heather Scarlett, third in 50-yard breaststroke.

Boys 11-12:

Nathan Adamski, second in 50-yard freestyle; Nathan Adamski, first in 50-yard backstroke.

Girls 13-14:

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Allison Pisano, Brenna McGinn, Erika Dowd, and Sarah Nacewicz placed first.

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Brenna McGinn, Shannon Costa, Shaunessy Egan, and Melissa Sparver placed first; and the team of Sarah Nacewicz, Lauren Kunkler, Allison Pisano, and Katherine Chmura placed second.

Katherine Chmura, first in 200-yard individual medley; Shannon Costa, first, and Shaunessy Egan, second in 200-yard freestyle; Melissa Sparver, second, and Allison Pisano, third in 50-yard freestyle; Shannon Costa, second, and Shaunessy Egan, third in 100-yard butterfly; Sarah Nacewicz, second in 100-yard freestyle; Brenna McGinn, second, and Katie Gallagher, third in 100-yard backstroke; Melissa Sparver, first, Katherine Chmura, second, and Lauren Kunkler, third in 100-yard breaststroke.

Boys 13-14:

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Joel Ward, Thomas Casiello, Thomas Graveline, and Jeffrey Rivkin placed first.

In the 200-yard medley relay, the team of Joel Ward, Thomas Casiello, Jeffrey Rivkin, and Thomas Graveline placed first.

Jeffrey Rivkin, first in 200-yard individual medley; Joel Ward, first in 200-yard freestyle; Matthew Francis, first in 50-yard freestyle; Matthew Francis, first in 100-yard freestyle; Thomas Casiello, first in 100-yard backstroke; Thomas Graveline, first in 100-yard breaststroke.

Girls 15-18:

Kelly Robinson, first in 200-yard individual medley; Kelly Robinson, first in 50-yard freestyle.

Boys 15-18:

Jonathan David, first in 200-yard freestyle.

Richy's Tree Service

Tree Trimming
Stump Grinding
Woodchips

Tree Removal
Brush Chipping
Firewood

Shrub Trimming

Complete Clean Up Service

Trees Done The Old Fashioned Way

(Handcarrying, Climbing, No Heavy Equipment, No Damage To Lawns, Etc.)

Complete Professional, Neat, Honest Work And References



Senior Citizen Discount 10%

Free Estimates

* Commercial & *
Residential *
* Snow Plowing

786-1786
786-0808

Winter Special

(Gift Certificates Available)

A Clean Dog Is A Happy Dog

23 Years
In Business



Off New Customers With This Ad

Elaine's Pet Salon - Featuring All-Breed Dog Grooming

Using the most up-to-date tools available and our promise to instruct you on the most modern and up-to-date grooming tools and flea products for the proper maintenance of your dog.

702 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
(Across From Agawam Police Station)

Call Mon. - Sat. For Appointment

786-6242

Walk-Ins Welcome 7:30 - 11:00 (Except Saturdays)

Pet Sitting In Your HOME

Cathedral No Problem At All As AHS Continues Stretch Of Easy Wins

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Cathedral High came into Agawam High's Kibbe gymnasium last Friday night for a girls' basketball contest against the Brownies. It was obvious right off that the Panthers already had one strike against them - they had dressed only nine players.

It is not wise for a club to come in understaffed against the two-time defending Valley Wheel champs. You see, fresh legs and a lot of them, are one thing a team needs this season to beat the Brownies, because they usually turn a basketball game into a track meet. So it was in this one.

Agawam outran the panting Panthers on both offense and defense to grab their eighth straight win of the season (8-2, 2-0 in Valley Wheel), 65-49.

Things started out slowly, however, which would have seemed to favor Cathedral. They were in a match-up 2-3 zone. Agawam was in man-to-man. With just under two minutes gone, the Brownies fired up their press and their running game.

The tempo might have picked up. But the point production by both sides seemed to be stuck in low gear. With three minutes gone, Agawam only led 4-0. Two minutes later, they were up, 4-1.

The Brownies were working at it by running picks and give-and-go plays on offense. Kristen Patterson (11 points, including a three, 2-5, 6 rebounds), Barbara Maloni (15 points, 3-4, 1 rebound), and Sarah Cote (2 points, 4 rebounds) were passing the ball deftly up court against a suddenly emerging Panther press.

Locals Take Command

Those passes, picks, and dish-offs began to bear fruit for Agawam. Suddenly, they scored nine straight points - four by Maloni, a three by Amber Conte (8 points, including two 3's), and two more by Maloni. And with seven minutes to go, Agawam

led, 13-5.

Then, in the next 1:20, four more from Maloni (who would have 12 in the first half), and two from Cote put the Brownies up 19-5.

Agawam was mixing up its press and half-court game nicely. And it showed in a 24-7 advantage with four minutes left.

Cathedral's Cara McMahon (19 points, including three 3's, 2-2, 5 rebounds) tried to get her club out of its one foot nailed to the floor offense by draining two treys as the half wore down. But it was obvious that two factors in the game so far caused problems for the Panthers.

First, they had committed 12 turnovers - about an average number for a high school team in a half. Agawam, however, took advantage and scored on seven of those Cathedral cough-ups.

On defense, Agawam was getting to the Panthers' passes on step ahead of the person the pass was intended for. Those steals led to fast break scores.

Agawam led at intermission, 33-15.

The Brownies went 14-28 (50 percent) and 4-6 (66 percent) from the stripe in the first half. They had 11 boards and 10 turnovers.

Cathedral shot 35 percent on a 6-17 performance from the floor. They went to the line twice, hitting one. They had nine boards, plus those 12 turnovers.

The Brownies didn't change much in the second half. They pressed again, played tough man on 'D' (with an occasional 2-1-2 thrown in to keep Cathedral off-balance), and ran on the outlet pass anytime they had the opportunity.

The Panthers came out snarling. With not even a minute gone, they battled the Brownies under their offensive boards, putting up four straight offensive rebounds. They couldn't hit on any of

them.

Visitors Begin To Show Strain

Agawam could hit and did. They drilled their first four field goals. Cathedral, playing only six of their nine players, was beginning to show the strain of running with Agawam. With 13 minutes to play, the Brownies led, 42-21.

Both teams were trading baskets now, which made it Agawam 51-33 at the 8:20 mark. It seemed that the Brownies were content to sit on the 18-point lead.

Cathedral chipped away with a hoop here and there. They scored four quick points on two Agawam turnovers to make it 58-47 with 2:49 left.

But now, with a dim light showing at the end of the tunnel, the Cathedral lack of numbers caused it to flicker out. They just didn't have the gas to make that final push to a possible win. Their press, against a momentarily disorganized Brownie offense, was being carried on shaky legs.

Agawam, shaky itself, sensed the Panthers were defanged. Freshman center Pia Bertone-Gross (16 points, 2-2, 4 rebounds), senior forward Courtne Hyland (8 points, 2-2, 3 rebounds), and senior forward Jamie Thomas (2 points, 3 rebounds) helped the defense tighten up, thus preserving the win.

Agawam's 12-20 (60 percent) performance from the floor and 6-9 (66 percent) from the stripe offset its nine rebounds and 10 more turnovers.

Cathedral drilled 13-25 (52 percent) from the field and 4-9 from the line. They had 12 boards and eight turnovers. They just did not have anything for the home stretch.

At this writing, they are 5-3 and 0-2 in the Valley Wheel.

Agawam, also at this writing, is 8-2 and 2-0 in the Wheel.

Basketball Teams Slate Fundraiser

The Agawam High School boys' basketball teams will be conducting their annual canister fundraiser on Saturday, February 3rd.

They will be collecting donations from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the following locations: Food Mart, Stop & Shop, and the Feeding Hills Post Office.

All proceeds will benefit the teams.

Dal Molin Comm. Slates Hockey Night

The Thomas Dal Molin Scholarship Committee is hard at work planning another fun-filled fundraiser. The event will be a Falcon Hockey Night and will be held on February 16, 1996. The Falcons will be playing the Cape Breton Oilers at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets will be available for \$8 by calling Mary Lou at 786-1959 or Kip Regnier at 786-9773. Teddy Bear Hockey Team will be playing the Ale House Team at 5:30 p.m.

This has always proven to be a funny as well as a fun game for the guys. They can use all the support they can get.

So come on out, put down the snow shovels, bring the family, and enjoy two games for the price of one.

Best local news - AAN!

Modified Racing Continues To Grow At Riverside Park

Who said Modified racing isn't growing at weekly racetracks in the Northeast? Well, that's just not true—it's growing at a steady rate! Everyone in New England is well aware of the strength of short-track, open-wheel racing, and most are aware of Riverside Park Speedway's image in the NASCAR Modified program.

In 1993, Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam hosted NASCAR Winston Modified Racing with a paid point fund of \$53,155.62 for all its weekly racing. Thirty-four different Modified drivers competed that year. By 1994, the point fund increased to \$61,880.68, and 41 different drivers competed in 1994.

As the 1995 season came to an end, the amazing number of different drivers in the Modified division grew to 50 different drivers, with a record point fund exceeding \$67,793.94 in Riverside point money. In short, three consecutive years of expansion and growth in competitors as well as point money.

One might ask who are these Modified tour drivers who visited Riverside Speedway for Saturday NASCAR racing? Besides local talent like Dan Avery, Dave Berube, Dave Caruso, Jim Houghton, Eric LeClair, and Ted Riggott, there were the diehard Modified tour drivers who showed up to visit; names like Reggie Ruggiero, Steve Park, Bruce Dell, Ed Flemko, Jr., S.J. Evanson, Tom Crevenho, and Tom Baldwin.

All of the aforementioned drivers raced in Saturday Riverside events. And never count out the likes of Ed Kennedy, Ken Bouchard, Tom Rosati, or Jerry Marquis who just come in for Saturday night racing. What's more, there is also the list of rising talent that includes such drivers as Brian Schofield, Richard Savary, Scott Walker, Tim Zambelli, Ed Spiers, and Fran Principi.

With the 1996 season set to open on March 23rd for the Budweiser "Big Chill" at Riverside Speedway, the Modified list is expected to have even more talent on hand, thanks to the presence of such names as Renee Dupuis, Tony Papale, Marty Leary, and several others.

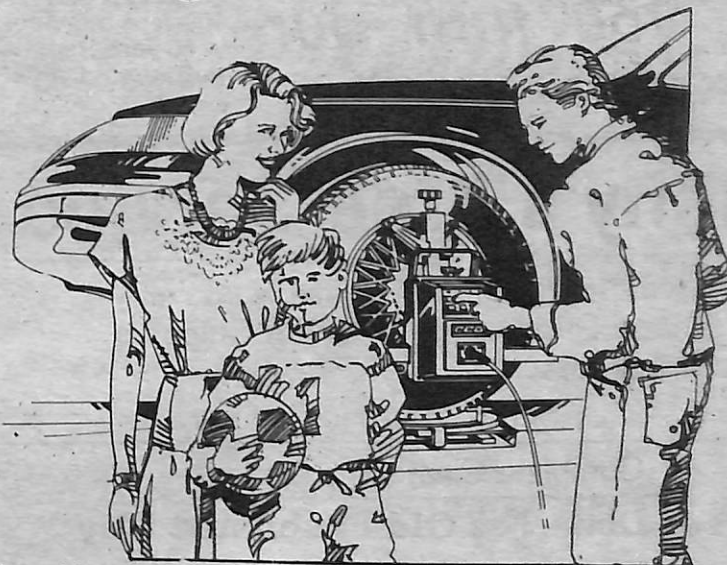
Some say it has a lot to do with the point money at Riverside. Others say it's the heat bonus money and free owner/driver program. However, based on a 1995 record count of 159,210 race fans, Modified racing is still as popular as ever at Riverside Speedway.

For a free color brochure, 1996 schedule, or poster, write to Riverside Park Speedway, P.O. Box 307, Agawam, MA 01001 (Attn.: Mary). Remember, season race passes are on sale now, season parking passes will go on sale as of March 1st, and the 1996 racing season at Riverside is scheduled to begin on March 23rd.

Preventive Maintenance!

Pay Now Or Pay A Lot More Later!

4 Wheel Laser Alignment Service



New Hours:

Monday—Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Now Open Saturdays ... 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
(Parts Store Open 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays)



V & F

Auto Service & Parts Inc.

443 Springfield Street

786-9914



Vinny Palange



Frank Palange

At V & F, Buy Dependable Car Quest Parts
And Do It Yourself ... Or We'll Do It For You!

- Complete Service Department To Keep Your Car Running Smoothly
- Our New Parts Store Has What You Need, Right Now

Sportsmen's Corner

—By Bill Chiba—
1003 No. Westfield St.
F.H., MA 01030



The Search For Perch!

The recent blizzard with its massive snowstorms finished piling up about 63 inches on the ground and lakes in the area. The ice fishing for Angie Borgatti and this writer has been zero for the winter so far. We both like to jig for yellow perch, and we miss the delicious repast we are used to during the winter months.

Yellow perch are pan fish, a member of the Percidae family; yellow perch is a true perch, along with saugers and darters. Most of them caught around here are on light tackle and jigging rigs through the ice.

The bait is an eye from a freshly caught perch with a minute flasher dropped very slowly through the ice, down to the bottom, and slowly retrieved with a jerk now and then to cause the flasher to work. Usually where there is one fish, there are many more, for the fish travel in schools.

On a good day of fishing, we have come home with 50 to 60 each which measured eight to 10 inches and weighed only 1/4-pound to 1/2-pound. A jumbo that we caught out of a pond in Connecticut weighed a good pound or better and went 15 to 16 inches. The world record (four pounds, three ounces) was caught in New Jersey in 1865.

Perch spawning begins at night in the spring when water temperatures rise to the mid 40's and lower 50's. Perch are unlike other fish; they build no nest and do not guard their eggs or defend their young. A gelatinous strand of as many as 50,000 eggs is extruded by the female, and the strand will adhere to whatever it touches—branches, weeds, brush, and other such debris.

Most every pond has perch in it, and most are likely distributed by water birds (ducks and geese). The eggs get attached to the legs of birds and are dropped off in surrounding ponds to hatch. It takes about three weeks for the eggs to hatch, and the larval fish immediately swim to the surface to feed on microscopic zoo plankton.

After three to four weeks, the fry swim to the bottom, where their diet expands to include insects, small crayfish, small snails, and some small fish. If they survive by October, they will reach four inches in growth. The small perch are prime forage for walleyes and other predators.

It is predicted that only one out of every 5,000 survive the first year. During the second and third years, as many as 80 percent more die. Their lifespan is about 11 years, and not many reach the maximum.

A very vivid scene remains in my mind of the mess of perch I had in the bucket when I arrived home from the first trip with Angie. "How the devil am I going to clean all these fish? It will take me all night!"

I voiced my concern to Angie, and he came back with, "It is simple. I'll show you how to dress out a couple, then I'm heading home." He chuckled.

He expertly dressed out two in a few seconds, handed me the knife, and said, "Have fun." As I worked through them, I did get faster. Now it is no trouble at all. It pays to go with an expert now and then.

World Fly Fishing Expo

The show runs at Shriners' Auditorium in Wilmington, MA, on March 9th and 10th. Show manager Paul Fuller states, "This will be the premiere event for fly fishing in New England in 1996. The timing of the event is perfect, just prior to the fly fishing season."

Dedicated anglers and novice casters alike can plan wilderness getaways and scenic vacations. Fly fishing lodges and guides from across North America are all at the show. Also on exhibit will be wildlife art, vintage tackle, books (including collectors' editions), and conservation displays.

Everything for tying flies can be found on Fly Tyers Row, and the latest materials and techniques are demonstrated in the Fly Tying Theater. And showgoers can watch the final round of the Fly Tying Contest. Tyers compete in Junior and Senior divisions in five categories: wet fly, dry fly, nymph, streamer, and overall. The competition grand prize is \$350.

The World Fly Fishing Expo showcases some of the best fly fishing talent in the world. The Fly Fishing Seminar Series features internationally-renowned casting instructor Lefty Kreh. Lefty stocks his clinics with tips and good humor. In 1996, the only Northeast show to see him at is the World Fly Fishing Expo.

Also presenting exclusively at the Expo will be Dave Whitlock (noted author, fly tyer, and tying instructor) and ESPN's expert guide Flip Pallot. Pallot is accomplished in both fresh and saltwater



LONNIE WATERMAN sets up his type through ice in search of a perch.

environs. Lou Tabory, one of the great pioneers of saltwater fishing, is also at the Expo.

The Expo is easy to reach. Take exit 39 off I-93 (Concord Street) and follow the signs to the Expo. Exit 39 is only minutes north of I-95 (Rte. 128).

Show times are Saturday, March 9th, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, March 10th, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Admission is \$7 for adults, and \$2 for children under 12 years of age. The parking is free.

"Fly Tyers Master Class"

The fly patterns described in this book by author Oliver Edwards are for the fly fisher. With a good range of these flies in your box (in differing sizes and colors), you will have an irresistible menu for the most persnickety of trout.

The book is the result of 30 years of field research into insect life using jars, nets, and marrow spoons, and a similar length of time spent experimenting with techniques and materials at the tying vice.

He has left no stone unturned in his quest to find out what the trout eat and, therefore, what fly dressing might be best suited for the job. While some fly tyers are content to produce loose resemblances to naturals, Oliver's attention to detail and to the "triggers" (which he feels are the most important feature of any fly) result in remarkably lifelike imitations.

This book—the author's first—brings together patterns which have been refined and put to the test over a period of 30 years.

This book can be obtained by contacting David C. Perkins, V.P., at Stoeger Publishing Company at 1-800-631-0722 or 1-800-631-0723. The price of the "Fly Tyers Master Class" is \$19.95.

Daggett Gymnasts Soar At Whip City Meet

The Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Level Five competed recently in a local meet at Whip City Gymnastics in Southwick. Eight of the 10 girls qualified for the next level of competition, the Sectional meet, with scores of 31 or more.

The high scorer was Jan Carlson (All-around 33.65), who scored an outstanding 9.25 on Beam, followed by Lisa DiRosa, impressive with a 9.1 on Floor, and a 33.2 All-around; Rebecca Langlands (32.9); Michelle Guillerault (32.65); Marjorie Moriarty (9.2 on Bars and All-around 32.1); Kellyn Palladino (31.5); Christine Hill (31.4); and Rachel Humphrey (31.4).

Coming close to qualifying were Abby Hazen (30.35) and Desiree Boucher (29.75).

The Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Girls' Optional Team took its talents to the Big Leagues on January 11th at the American Twisters Invitational at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton.

This was the first time the whole team traveled to a distant national competition, and is part of the continuing growth of the Daggett Gymnastics program. Eight girls competed at levels nine and ten (the last steps before Elite), and the team came home with the Seventh Place trophy.

In individual scoring, the team's top women's gymnast—13 year-old Michelle Germano—scored a respectable 34.125 in the ferocious Level Ten competition with girls much older than she. With each competition at this level, she gains more confidence and skill. She'll be back.

At Level Nine, Ages 8-14 Group, and bringing home the highest honors, was the unflappable Jaime Scott-Smith, who was fourth on Vault (8.95), eighth on Beam (8.65), eighth on Floor (8.9), and eighth All-Around with a 34.725.

Close to her was Kadee Bramley, who was fourth on Beam (8.75), 10th on Floor (8.85), and ninth All-around with a 34.65. Amy Reynolds' strength and style won her seventh place on Bars (8.75) and had a 33.45 All-around.

Brynne Kennedy's concentration made her a medalist, placing her 10th on Vault with an 8.75 and scoring an All-around of 33.35. Lindsey Hadden and Brooke Giguere had All-around scores of 32.4 and 30.20, respectively, in their first meet far from home.

Kari Barnowski contributed to the Level Nine team effort with her 29.95.

The Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics Boys' Team scored numerous victories at the West Point Invitational on January 14th. The team itself brought home the Team Championship at both Levels II and III, as well as numerous individual achievements.

Individual All-Around Championships were won by John Szymczyk (Class II, 14-15, Junior Elite), Mathieu Perry (Class III, 14-15), and Jamey Houle (Class III, 12-13).

Further All-around honors were won by Andy Leis (Third Place, Class I, 16-18, Junior Elite); Patrick McFarlin (Fourth Place, Class III, 12-13); and Darren Morace (Fifth Place, Class II, 14-15).

Also winning individual event honors was David LeClair, who took Sixth Place in the Vault.

These boys' achievements at such events is a testimonial to their hard work, talent, and the coaching of their mentors, former Olympic Champion Tim Daggett, and his Assistant Coach, Igor Vernyi.



TRAIN WITH US!

GOAL KEEPING ACADEMY featuring **JOHN VOIGHT**
Junior to Advanced training

AFTER SCHOOL CLINICS

For all abilities
Includes league play
GET ON THE SOCCER CITY TEAM

BOTH CAMPS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 19th

FOR MORE INFO CALL US AT **SOCCER CITY**

SPOTS ARE LIMITED (413) 543-8554

PATRONIZE YOUR LOCAL



PAUL'S TREE SERVICE



- ✓ Leaf Clean-Ups
- ✓ Snow Removal
- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Removal
- ✓ Pruning
- ✓ Planting
- ✓ Stump Grinding
- ✓ Lot Clearing
- ✓ Cordwood
- ✓ Wood Chips
- ✓ Free Estimates
- ✓ Senior Citizen Discount

• 10 Years Experience

Residential • Commercial **733-7520**

Check
our
classified
pages
every
week for
**FAST
FAST
results!**
Send in
yours
TODAY!

D'ANGELO'S Auto Detailing

Complete Car Cleaning Inside & Out

Free
Estimates



789-0109
36 A Russo Circle,
Agawam

Why settle for less when you can have the best?

Open:
M-F, 7:30-5:00; Sat., 7:30-4:00;
Sunday, By Appointment

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
SALES • SERVICE • REPAIR • INSTALLATION

WOOD, METAL & INSULATED OVERHEAD DOORS

CONTE DOOR SERVICE

- Authorized Genie Dealer
- Sales & Service
- Cables & Springs Repaired
- Sectional Replacement
- New Radio Controls Installed
- Garage Doors Weatherstripped
- Specialty...From Swinging to Overhead

Joseph J. Conte Jr., Owner
**WEEKEND
EMERGENCY SERVICE**
786-1800
FAX-786-6700 FEEDING HILLS, MA

THE GARAGE DOOR SPECIALIST

**Service Is
Our Business!**

Service Department
Open Monday to Thursday
7:00 A.M. - Midnight
7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. On Friday



**All Ford Cars, Vans, Trucks,
And Lincoln Mercury Products**

We Service And Honor Ford Motor Company
Warranties, Even If You Didn't Buy From Us!

SARAT FORD 245 Springfield Street Agawam **786-0430**



MIKE MORAN PAINTING CO.

"Quality Work With A Personal Touch"

Staining, Spraying, Wallpaper Hanging
Screen & Window Repair
Interior & Exterior Painting

Free Estimates **413-786-3370**

Northeast Builders

(Since 1975)

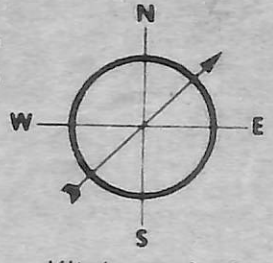
- Roofing • Siding • Kitchens And
Baths • Additions • Major Remodeling

Lots And Lots Of References And A
Complete Portfolio

Rick Pfeffer
4 Lenox Street, Feeding Hills

789-1150

Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450
Free Estimates ... Full Licensed And Insured



Lyman Custom Remodeling

- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Additions
- Hutches, Corner Cabinets, And
Other Specialty Furniture



• High Quality Workmanship
Free Estimates • Fully Insured

789-3032

Michael G. Lyman
63 Columbia Drive
Feeding Hills

License No.
048883

Have The Very Best Possible Time At Your
Next Party

**Experienced Professional
Disc Jockey**

Not A Single Dissatisfied Customer
(413) 789-0829

Charles Parker

37 Sheri Lane
Agawam

Vinyl Siding Windows Installed

Over 25 Years Experience
Quality And Pride In Our Work



THE CHAREST CO. INC.
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

42 White Birch Terrace, Feeding Hills
786-8666

Myrtle Beach Area Property




Boling & Associates, Inc.

7722 N. Kings Hwy.
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29572
Business (803) 449-7449
Bus. (800) 634-2500, Fax (803) 449-8802
Res. (803) 399-0305

Jack Shaughnessy
Formerly Of Agawam



Each Office Is Independently Owned & Operated



Classified

SERVICES

SNOWPLOWING: Residential/commercial. Also, snowblowing for walkways and hard-to-reach areas. Free estimates. Call 789-9556. Hall Snowplowing Service.

HALL SERVICES: Cleaning service—cellars/garage, window/house cleaning. Call 789-9556.

READY • SET • GROW! Family Day Care. Experienced teacher of children with special needs has immediate openings. Pre-school curriculum. Large fenced back yard and reasonable rates, FA/CPR certified. Granger School District. Call Sue at 789-2530. License no. 91897.

CARPENTRY SERVICES: Additions & remodeling, family rooms, cellars, kitchens & baths, Florida rooms & screen porches, decks & replacement windows, wood siding & sheds. 25 yrs. exp. Fully insured & references. No job too small. Call George Bernier, 786-8452.

BILL SPEAR FORESTRY SERVICES: Complete tree removal, trimming. Land cleared. Senior citizen discount. FREE ESTIMATES. Fully insured. Call 786-5081.

APPLIANCE AND REFRIGERATOR REPAIR: Mr. Service. Fast, competitive prices. One call does it all. Your hometown repairman. Call (413) 789-1883.

DAVID'S WINDOW CLEANING AND JANITORIAL
Mother's Little Helper! Floors waxed, rugs shampooed, walls washed. Commercial and residential. Call Paul Ferrarini, (413) 786-4436.

CLASSIC TAX SERVICE: Return to sanity! Personal service at sensible rates. Pick-up and delivery to your home at no extra charge. Call 789-7169 after 6 p.m.

NORTHEAST BUILDERS: Custom homes & remodeling (since 1975). Fully insured & licensed. Rick Pfeffer, 4 Lenox St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450. (413) 789-1150.

HAULER/DISPOSAL SERV.: Attn. Real Estate Agents—Newly started business will take your worries away. From emptying & cleaning gar., cellars, attics, to whole homes & apts. Small jobs a specialty, but not limited. Will also do interior painting & vacuuming. (413) 535-5110.

D'ANGELO'S AUTO DETAILING: 36 A Russo Circle, Agawam. Complete car cleaning inside & out. Free estimates. Why settle for less when you can have the best? Open: M-F, 7:30-5:00; Sat., 7:30-4:00; Sunday, by appointment. 789-0109.

WYMAN'S VCR REPAIR: TVs, VCRs, Computer Monitors, & Camcorders. All makes and models. Factory trained, licensed technician. 789-2835.

SNOWPLOWING: Tom's Diversified Services - Providing carpentry, roofing, window replacement, masonry, repairs, cleaning of cellars, garages, attics, etc. ... A to Z. Senior citizen discount. Call Tom Brusco, 569-0728, for your free estimate and complete satisfaction.

CURLEY'S PLOWING: Free estimates, fully insured. Commercial and residential. Reasonable rates, quality work. Curley's Lawn Service and Plowing, 786-4622.

PAUL'S TREE SERVICE: Removal, pruning, planting, stump grinding, lot clearing, trimming hedges, cabling and bracing, lightning protection. Neat clean-up (no mess left). Call Paul Cocchi, 733-7520.

CARPENTER: Small jobs to custom homes. Honest work at today's prices. Senior discounts and free estimates. Call Stephen Gould, 786-6887.

PRO PLOWING SERVICE: Schedule early and save! Residential driveways \$12.50 and up; commercial bids available; shoveling and sanding also available; cellular dispatching. Free estimates. Call Lee (Agawam resident), 786-7742.

LOUISE'S FAMILY CHILDCARE: Has full time openings, all ages. Child safe environment, crafts, home-made meals, large yard, lots of educational and recreational toys. Lic. No. 71474. PEACE OF MIND WHILE YOU WORK. Call 789-1178.

BASEMENT REPAIRS: Walls, floors, cracks, hatchways—water proofing & damp proofing. Licensed, insured, 15 years experience. Call (413) 789-1626.

AGAWAM AREA—FAMILY DAYCARE: A warm and friendly family Daycare has openings. CPR/FA certified. Flexible hours/reasonable rates. References. License no. 175320. Call Donna, 789-4162.

FAMILY DAY CARE: Full-time, nutritious meals and snacks, large play room and yard, reading, arts, music, exercise, age-appropriate activities tailored to individual's requirements. References available. Linda, 789-0881. License no. 171137.

TAX RETURN PREPARATION: Individuals & businesses. Weekends & evening appts. available. Call early. Christine A. Rice, CPA, 786-9228.

PERSONAL

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Sacred Heart, help of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank-you St. Jude for granting my petition.

RS

WANTED

PART-TIME SALES
Telemarketing help wanted. Hours: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. or 5:00-8:00 p.m. **FOR APPOINTMENT, CALL 786-3155** after 11:00 a.m.

BABYSITTER NEEDED: Some days, some nights. Full time. Around 19 years-old. Call now! A.S.A.P. Liz, 736-7822.

LOOKING FOR ASSISTANCE: In readying my multihandicapped daughter of 10 for school from Monday to Friday at 6:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. Other hours of care could arise also. My assistant would substitute running my Family Day-Care as the need arose after she became licensed, as well. Call 786-3371 in Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.

Best local news...

Reg. No. 116963
Const. Sup. No. 000450

Fully Insured & Licensed

Northeast Builders

Since 1975

Custom Homes • Remodeling

RICK PFEFFER
4 LENOX ST.
FEEDING HILLS, MA 01030
413-789-1150



FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Heavy duty Voit Stairmaster/Stepper w/monitor. New condition. \$450.00 new. Selling for \$175.00/B.O. Powerwalk Treadmill w/ski arms & monitor. New condition. \$100.00/B.O. or \$225.00 for both. CALL 786-8867.

BLOCK JEWELERS

1/2 Price Jewelry Repairs
1/2 Price Watch Cleanings

* Except Rolex
And Chronographs

All Work Done
On Premises

Same Day Service
Available On
Jewelry Repairs

Valid On Incoming
Orders Only

BLOCK JEWELERS, INC. SOUTH END BRIDGE CIRCLE
AGAWAM, MA NEXT TO KITCHENS BY HILTZBERG
789-2940

Transmission Trouble?
Call Our Transmission Hotline

734-9351

Serving this area for over 30 years.

We Build Transmissions

ATC TRANSMISSIONS

811 Union St., West Springfield, MA
"We'll Put You In The Right Gear"

Professional...

Wallpapering Painting

At Prices You'll Like!

- Dependable & Prompt
- Many References
- Local

Call 786-5540

Make Your Home Into
The Great American Home!



Why Go To A Class
For Computer Help?



**ONE ON ONE
COMPUTING**
Call 786-1892

Personal, In-Home Tutoring
And Consulting Available!

Buy Your Software From Us And
We Will Install It In Your Home!

Bill Spear Forestry Services

Frozen Lawns And No Leaves Make This The Best Time For Tree Work!



- ★ TREE REMOVAL
- ★ TREE TRIMMING
- ★ LAND CLEARING
- ★ BRUSH CHIPPING
- ★ STUMP GRINDING

Year-Round 24-Hour
Emergency Storm Service

FULLY INSURED

Serving Agawam And Surrounding Area
For Over 10 Years

FREE ESTIMATES / SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

All Phases of Professional Tree Work

786-5081

Special Orders
Are Always Welcome -
Please Call Ahead
789-4466



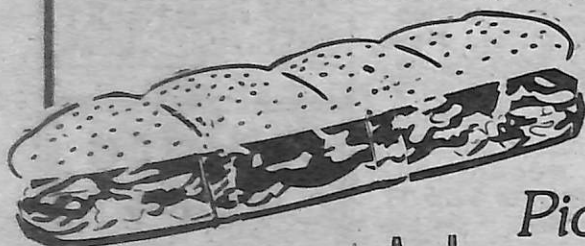
Hours:
6:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Open Seven Days,

CORNER DELI & VARIETY

644 MAIN STREET AGAWAM CENTER
Not Just Another Convenience Store

New!!!

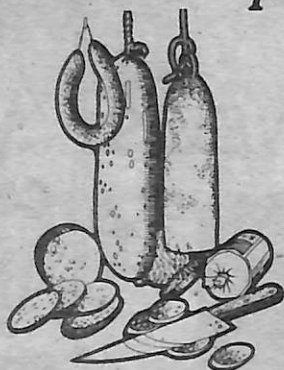
Now Join The "Corner Deli" Grinder Club



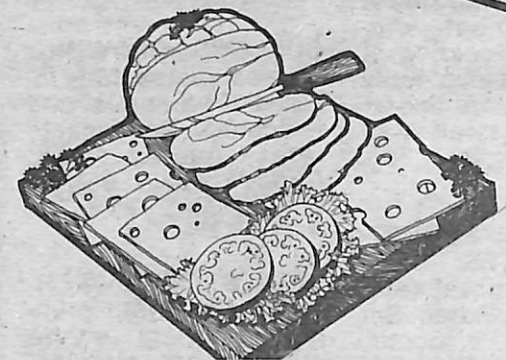
**Buy 9 10" Grinders,
Get 10th One Free**



Pick Up A Corner Deli Card Today!



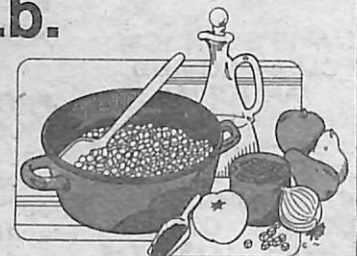
Deli Specials



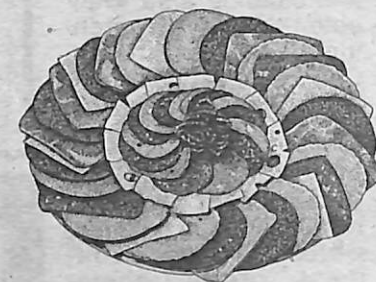
Land O' Lakes American Cheese \$2.99 Lb.
Domestic Ham \$2.99 Lb.
Turkey Breast \$4.29 Lb.
Roast Beef \$4.49 Lb.
Genoa Salami \$3.39 Lb.
German Bologna \$1.19 Lb.



We Can Do Much For You



- Homemade Party Platters
- Homemade Lasagna Trays
- Homemade Salads
- Homemade Meatball Trays
- Hot Soup Each Weekday
- The Freshest Sandwiches And Grinders In Town
- Hot Coffee Always Brewing, Including Our Gourmet Blends
- Bagels Every Sunday
- Breakfast Pastry, Muffins, And Donuts



Complete Mass Lottery

• Megabucks

• Mass Cash

• Mass Millions